

JPRS-UMA-89-014
3 JUNE 1989



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

JPRS Report

Soviet Union

Military Affairs

Soviet Union Military Affairs

JPRS-UMA-89-014

CONTENTS

3 June 1989

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

Belorussian Efforts in Behalf of Afghan Vets	1
Commission Formed to Study Situation [SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA, 1 Mar 89]	1
Resolution on Pensions Published [SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA, 1 Mar 89]	1
Central Committee Secretary Interviewed [V.A. Pechennikov; SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA, 1 Mar 89]	2
Newly Elected Deputy on Election: Maj Gen Surkov [N. Mulyar; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 5 Apr 89]	4
Newly Elected Deputy on Election: Gen Army Postnikov [A. Manushkin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 5 Apr 89]	5
Naval Journalists' Program Victim of Reduction in Forces [V. Pavlyuk; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 5 Apr 89]	6
CC Greetings on 70th Anniversary of Political Directorate [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 17 May 89]	7

MILITARY SCIENCE

Qualitative Parameters: More Regimental Autonomy [V. Streltsov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 25 Apr 89]	8
---	---

WARSAW PACT

22 Units, Including 13th Guards Tank, Withdrawing From Hungary [A. Kaverznev; KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, 26 Apr 89]	10
---	----

ARMED FORCES

Dep Chief of General Staff on Draft Deferments [G. Krivosheyev; IZVESTIYA, 30 Mar 89]	11
Warrant Officer Arrested on Petty Charge, Shot Trying to Escape [V. Zhitarenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 19 Mar 89]	12
New Draftees Note Inequity of Longer Naval Term of Service [L. Lyalin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 89]	16
Readers' Opinions on Proposed Officers' Conferences	17
Meeting is Social Self-Organization [Yu. Mamontov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 89]	17
Officer Honor Code Needed [V. Tsybin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 89]	18
Conference Needs Legal Status [S. Shalaykin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 89]	18
Conference Needs Democratic Nature [V. Samoylov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 89]	19
Conference on Troop Education Held in Minsk [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 2 Apr 89]	19
Support Services Faulted, Officer Material Incentives Proposed [A. Borovkov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 2 Apr 89]	19
Work of Spring Flood Commission in Volga MD [G. Kravchenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 2 Apr 89]	21
Soldiers Departing Service Offered Opportunities on Farm [A. Pronyagin, et al; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 8 April 89]	22
Cadre Officer on Reduction, Reserve Officer Status [V. Stoyakin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Apr 89]	22

AIR FORCE, AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Mig-29 Performance, Technical Specifications [A. Velovich, L. Egenburg; TEKHNIKA I MOLODEZHI No 2, 1989]	24
Comparison of Third-Generation Fighters [TEKHNIKA I MOLODEZHI No 2, 1989]	26
PVO Training Weak Against Jamming, Cruise Missiles [B. Vaganov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 May 89]	29

NAVAL FORCES

Computer Use in Naval Combat Training Discussed	[A. Alekseyev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Mar 89]	30
Wider Role for Officers' Assemblies Urged	[N. Remizov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 7 Apr 89]	30
More Details on 'KOMSO MOLETS' Disaster	[N. Cherkashin; PRAVDA, 12 May 89]	32
Komsomolets Crew Award Decree Published	[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 May 89]	38

SPECIAL TROOPS

Majority of Disciplinary Cases Concentrated in Construction Troops	[I. Ivanyuk; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Mar 89]	40
--	--	----

REAR SERVICES, DEFENSE INDUSTRIES

Metrological Support Competition Held	[V. Medvedev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Mar 89]	43
Proposal to Accelerate Motor Vehicle Repair	[S. Yurchenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 4 Apr 89]	43
Defense Conversion: Molniya Medium Machine-Building Plant in Moscow	[V. Romanyuk; IZVESTIYA, 2 Apr 89]	44

DOSA AF

Oblast Fulfillment of 1986 Decree on Pre-Draft Training		46
Lack of Facilities Noted	[G. Chernyshev; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA No 2, Feb 89]	46
Pre-Draft Youth Poorly Trained	[S. Brish; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA No 2, Feb 89]	47
Kursk Organizations Train 50 Percent of Draft Age Youth	[I. Chikomasova; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA No 2, Feb 89]	49

MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Serious Deficiencies in Restructuring Officers' Schools Noted	[V. Kovalevskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Mar 89]	51
---	--	----

MILITARY HISTORY

Soviet Participation in Arab-Israeli War of Attrition Recalled	[A. Dokuchayev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 25 Mar 89]	53
--	---	----

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

Life in Angola Military Assistance Group Depicted	[S. Bystrov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 25 Mar 89]	57
Further Coverage of Military Advisory Group—Angola	[S. Bystrov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 27 Mar 89]	58
Commentary on NATO 'Dragon-Hammer-89' Exercise	[A. Yurev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 May 89]	60

Belorussian Efforts in Behalf of Afghan Vets

Commission Formed to Study Situation

18010560 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 1 Mar 89 p 1

[Resolution of the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet "On the Conduct of a Study of the Financial and General Circumstances of Afghan Veterans and the Families of Those Who Died and the Provision of Assistance in Meeting Their Social and General Needs"]

[Text]The Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. That there should be set up under the ispolkoms [executive committees] of rural, settlement, rayon, city, urban rayon and oblast soviets and the Minsk City Soviet of People's Deputies, commissions made up of deputies, representatives of the community and Afghan veterans to make a study of the financial and general circumstances of Afghan veterans and the families of those who died in Afghanistan for purposes of helping them to meet their social and general needs.

To instruct these commissions to verify within a 2-month period the financial and general circumstances of each soldier/internationalist and the family of each one killed and their provision with the established benefits and privileges, and to help them meet their social and general needs.

Said commissions under the ispolkoms of oblast soviets and the Minsk City Soviet of People's Deputies are to submit the summarized findings of the study for the oblasts and the city of Minsk, along with proposals requiring a decision of republic agencies, to the commission of the BSSR Supreme Soviet by 15 May 1989.

2. To set up a commission under the BSSR Supreme Soviet to review the findings of the study of the financial and general circumstances of former soldier/internationalists and the families of those who died in Afghanistan, along with proposals requiring a decision of republic agencies, consisting of the following members:

Commission chairman,

Sergey Stepanovich Ling, deputy in the BSSR Supreme Soviet and deputy chief of the BSSR Gosplan;

Commission members:

Konstantin Nikolayevich Anishchenko, first deputy BSSR minister of health;

Yuliy Kazimirovich Volchek, first BSSR deputy minister of housing and municipal services;

Raisa Fedorovna Dubrovskaya, deputy in the BSSR Supreme Soviet, insulation specialist at the Minsk Specialized Administration of the Belteploisolyatsiya Trust;

Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Zelenkevich, milling-machine operator at the Minsk Motor Vehicle Plant and former fightingman/internationalist;

Leonid Fedorovich Klimenko, chief of the Section for Organizing Services for the Disabled and Pensioners under the BSSR Ministry of Social Security;

Vladimir Semenovitch Klyausov, head of the Section for Awards of the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet;

Vladimir Ivanovich Korotkov, military commissar of the BSSR;

Yuriy Mikhaylovich Mikhnevich, deputy in the BSSR Supreme Soviet;

Veronika Anisimovna Otrashkevskaya, acting head of the Section for Public Health and Social Security of the BSSR Council of Ministers;

Mikhail Vasilyevich Podgaynyy, secretary of the Belorussian Komsomol CC.

3. To recommend to the permanent commissions for public health and social security, for housing and municipal services and personal services, for youth affairs, for the labor and life of women and for the protection of motherhood and childhood of the BSSR Supreme Soviet, and the corresponding permanent commissions of local soviets of people's deputies that they assume control over the provision of the established benefits and privileges for former soldier/internationalists and the families of those who died in Afghanistan and to help them meet their social and general needs.—G. Tarazevich, Chairman of the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet; L. Syroyegina, Secretary of the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet; Minsk, 23 February 1989

Resolution on Pensions Published

18010560 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 1 Mar 89 p 1

[Resolution of BSSR Council of Ministers "On Personal Pensions for Servicemen and the Members of Families of Servicemen Who Died in the Performance of Their International Duty in the Republic of Afghanistan"]

[Text] In keeping with Decree No. 987 passed by the USSR Council of Ministers on 9 August 1988, "On Additional Measures to Improve the Financial and General Circumstances of Individuals Who Performed Their International Duty in the Republic of Afghanistan,

and of Their Families," and by way of implementing the decree passed by the Belorussian Communist Party CC on 27 February 1989, the BSSR Council of Ministers resolves:

That it is necessary to establish republic personal pensions for servicemen disabled as a result of wounds, contusions, maimings or illnesses contracted in the performance of their international duty in the Republic of Afghanistan. Pensions are established as exceptions, in the following amounts:

- for disabled servicemen (regardless of length of time worked prior to induction into the Soviet Army), 160 rubles per month for the first group, 150 for the second, and 110 rubles per month for the third group;
- for mothers and wives of privates, NCOs and officers killed, who have reached the age of 50 years, in the amount of pensions they would receive due to loss of breadwinner through social security agencies or the USSR Ministry of Defense, but no less than 80 rubles per month;
- for mothers and wives who have reached pension age, the maximum amount of the republic personal pension established under the terms providing for the designation of such pensions for personal merit;
- for the children of privates, NCOs and officers killed in the performance of their international duty, in the amount of pensions they would receive due to loss of breadwinner through social security agencies or the USSR Ministry of Defense, but no less than 60 rubles for each child.—M. Kovalev, Chairman of the BSSR Council of Ministers; A. Sokolovskiy, Assistant Administrator of Affairs of the BSSR Council of Ministers; 27 February 1989, Minsk

"Confronting the Needs of the Soldier/Internationalists" is the title of an interview with V.A. Pechennikov, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party CC, published on page 3.

Central Committee Secretary Interviewed
18010560 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 1 Mar 89 p 3

[Interview with V.A. Pechennikov, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party CC, by BELTA correspondent Ya. Alekseychik: "Confronting the Needs of the Soldier/Internationalists"]

[Text]

[Alekseychik] Valeriy Andreyevich, we are all happy that Soviet forces have been removed from Afghanistan. Although that country is far away, the war was not a long way off for us. Obelisks erected at the graves of our boys

will be an eternal reminder of it. The weapons have been sheathed, but debate surrounding the war has not died down. One hears in the debate talk about a lost generation....

[Pechennikov] More than 16,000 people who fulfilled their international duty as part of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan presently reside in Belorussia. A total of 3,605 of them have been awarded orders and medals of the USSR and four Belorussian soldiers were awarded the great title Hero of the Soviet Union for courage, heroism and the exemplary execution of missions from command.

Unfortunately, there is no war without victims. The fighting on Afghan soil took the lives of 760 of our fellow countrymen. Another 443 were disabled, including 24 in Group 1 and 175 in Group 2. I do not have to say that this is a very sad statistic, because human life and health are the most valuable thing on earth.

With respect to the doubts and talk about a lost generation, there is only one thing to say: Soviet soldiers entered Afghan country with noble goals. And it was not their fault that others added fuel to the Afghan fire. They honorably fulfilled their duty and demonstrated in extreme situations that they are fully worthy of the glory of their fathers. This is a good reply to those who see only infantilism, social and political passivity in the contemporary youth.

The soldier/internationalists did not deserve criticism and are not in need of consolation. They need understanding and just treatment. It is a known fact that the return to peacetime life is far from always painless. Particularly in this case, since it did not depend entirely upon the "Afghaners" themselves.

[Alekseychik] During a meeting with the soldier/internationalists in the Belorussian Communist Party CC Ye.Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the CC, stressed the fact that the party is counting on their active participation in the restructuring processes.

[Pechennikov] I also want to stress the fact that people tempered in the difficult trials and possessing a heightened sense of justice and intolerance of deficiencies are very much needed in the restructuring. Those who received the "schooling of Afghanistan" are just that kind of militant people also in civilian life. The press has already reported on Petr Petrashkevich and Gennadiy Brovko, who continue to work as tractor drivers even though they lost their legs. There are collectives in which entire detachments of former soldier/internationalists work. There are 141 such people at the Minsk Motor Vehicle Plant, for example, and 150 at the tractor plant.

Uniting their efforts, they are actively performing public work. The Kaskad Student Construction Group of the Belorussian Institute of the National Economy, which

consists of reserve fightingmen, annually includes teenagers with a police record. There can be no doubt that the "difficult ones" are under a good influence.

A total of 190 military reserve councils and clubs and 100 military-patriotic youth clubs have been set up in the republic, with the internationalists taking an active part. More than 30 of them have been advanced to vacated Komsomol positions. Around 300 "Afghaners" help to protect law and order as part of people's patrols and operational Komsomol detachments in the Gomel area alone. Reserve fightingmen help the disabled and the families of those who died, and monuments to the soldier/internationalists will be built at their initiative.

[Alekseychik] But let us go back to what you said about attention and justice. You had a reason for using these words, after all.

[Pechennikov] The internationalists do not always receive the treatment they have earned. This does not mean, of course, that nothing is being done for them. The disabled and the families of those who died have been allocated more than 1,000 apartments in the republic without a wait. Around 2,500 people have been placed on the priority list. Passes are issued to those in need of treatment at sanatoria, and increased stipends are paid. But there are instances of lack of concern and simply callousness toward the needs of the disabled and the families of fightingmen who were killed. The "Afghaners" sometimes have to knock many times at the doors of various offices and even bear undeserved criticism and accusations. This was the case in Novopolotsk. We in the Central Committee and other party committees have begun to receive letters telling about such outrages. A large-scale verification conducted in December of last year confirmed that these complaints are justified. It was decided to hold a meeting with soldier/internationalists in the Belorussian Communist Party CC to talk with them about all the problems. Such a meeting was held on 3 February. The questions raised during the meeting were carefully studied, and a special resolution was passed on them by the CC Bureau on 22 February.

The bureau recognized the need for a republic military-patriotic association. The Belorussian Komsomol CC, the military commissariat and the BSSR DOSAAF CC are already working to have it functioning within the near future. The technical equipment at each military-patriotic club will be checked. The results will be reviewed by the ispolkoms of local soviets. This is being done in order to see that all of the clubs are provided with space, equipment and supplies.

It is also planned to set up a republic economically accountable training methods and culture center for the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth under the BSSR Komsomol CC within the next 2 months. It will be used also for organizing leisure-time activities and for the physical conditioning of the youth.

The resolution contains numerous specific assignments for the oblast, rayon and city party committees with respect to ensuring that the reserve fightingmen take an active part in public life and in the indoctrination of the pre-draft youth.

The gathering of information on all the soldier/internationalists who died in Afghanistan has been started at the publishing house of the Belorussian Soviet Encyclopedia. A special book will be devoted to them.

[Alekseychik] And how are the housing and general problems encountered by the soldier/internationalists going to be resolved?

[Pechennikov] Commissions are being set up in the ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies to make a study within 2 months of the personal circumstances of each former soldier/internationalist and the families of those who died in Afghanistan. Specific decisions will be made based on the results of the study. If the problem proves to be too much for the local authorities, however, it has been suggested that the information be sent to a special commission set up under the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet.

The Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party CC has ordered that all of the disabled and the families of fightingmen who died in Afghanistan who need it be provided with a separate apartment or house. It has been recommended that the trade-union committees and the councils of labor collectives specify in the collective agreements privileges simplifying the registration of soldier/internationalists for apartments. It is suggested that they be included on the commission for monitoring the distribution of housing at enterprises and in the ispolkoms of the soviets of people's deputies.

[Alekseychik] But there is a subtle matter of considerable importance in this regard. According to the resolution passed by the BSSR Council of Ministers and the Belorussian Trade-Union Council, the ispolkoms of oblast soviets and the Minsk City Soviet of People's Deputies have established a procedure whereby a citizen cannot be registered for an apartment until 2 or even 5 years after receiving a residence permit. It differs in each oblast. Will this not delay the implementation of the plan?

[Pechennikov] It will not. It has been recommended to the Council of Ministers that the residence certification terms not be applied to the veterans of Afghanistan or the families of fightingmen who died there. Those who want to join a housing cooperative or build their own home will also receive assistance.

I would add to this the fact that the resolution calls for priority telephone installation for them and installation at special rates for the families of those who died. The

council of Ministers is considering a 50% discount on the cost of medicine for the children of those who died. They will be kept at preschool establishments and boarding facilities free of charge.

[Alekseyechik] The matter of pensions was acutely discussed at the February meeting in the Central Committee.

[Pechennikov] On this matter I shall simply cite the corresponding section in the resolution passed by the Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party CC: "Based on the requests voiced at the meeting, it would be proper to establish republic personal pensions for individuals disabled in the performance of their international duty in the Republic of Afghanistan, as well the families of servicemen who were killed or died as a result of wounds, contusions or illnesses contracted in Afghanistan."

[Alekseyechik] And when will the republic Council of Ministers adopt such a decision?

[Pechennikov] The government is working efficiently. The decision has already been adopted.

The BSSR Council of Ministers will petition the USSR Council of Ministers to establish a 50% reduction in income taxes for former soldier/internationalists. It has been proposed that the resolution passed by the BSSR Council of Ministers on 13 February 1989, "On Benefits for Veterans of the Great Patriotic War for Travel on Public Transport," be extended to cover those who fought in Afghanistan and the families of those died.

[Alekseyechik] Does the resolution passed by the CC Bureau specify steps to improve medical services for those who were wounded or became ill in Afghanistan?

[Pechennikov] Yes, steps will be taken to improve medical services for these people, particularly orthopedic assistance for the disabled.

The BSSR Trade-Union Council, the BSSR Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Security, together with the Mogilev Oblast Ispolkom, have committed themselves to open a specialized VTEK [Disability Review Board] at the Sanatorium imeni Lenin in Bobruysk. Farms (khozyaystva) around the city will sponsor the sanatorium.

[Alekseyechik] One last question: about finding jobs for the disabled. Not all of them have the opportunity to perform even the jobs they are capable of at this point, after all.

[Pechennikov] Several home-craft combines of the BSSR Ministry of Light Industry and a boarding facility on Kalinin Street, No. 7, in Minsk are being turned over to the Belorussian Society of Disabled People.

It is planned to locate a center for the social rehabilitation of the disabled there. A training base will also be set up for their vocational training and retraining.

I shall say in conclusion that the resolution passed by the Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party CC has instructed local authorities immediately to consider requests for improved housing for those families which have encountered red tape. In general, this document was compiled so as to give maximum consideration to the needs of the Afghan veterans and to satisfy them in accordance with their merits. The Central Committee demands that the party committees and organizations carefully monitor the situation to see that the requests of the Afghan veterans are considered without delay and that lack of concern, and particularly callousness, for them are resolutely rooted out.

Newly Elected Deputy on Election: Maj Gen Surkov

18010000a Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
5 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Major General M. Surkov by Colonel N. Mulyar: "To Speak the Truth"]

[Text] Major General M. Surkov, Chief of the Political Section of the Special Region was elected the USSR people's deputy from the 396th Leninakan—Sirakskiy National-Territorial Electoral District with over 95 percent of the voters voting for him. Our correspondent for the Transcaucasian Military District spoke with him by telephone.

[Mulyar] Mikhail Semonovich [Surkov], may I cordially congratulate you as the elected USSR people's deputy. I would like to know what lessons you have personally gained for yourself in analyzing your campaign fight!

[Surkov] Thank you. The main conclusion is not to promise what we cannot produce. It is essential to say the truth. And the promises should be as concrete as possible as the people will not accept appeals and general phrases. I was repeatedly convinced of this during the campaign meetings. The voters from one of the civil defense regiments were extremely frank on this score: we will not vote for eloquent appeals, give us dates, name the measures which you are planning to organize life, to activate the reserves....

I must say that it is very difficult to carry out what has been promised under the conditions of the Special Region but much of what we discussed in the campaign meetings is already being done. And the people view this most appreciatively.

[Mulyar] How have your activities as a deputy begun?

[Surkov] First of all, I have endeavored to analyze in detail the commands of the voters. I have over 100 of them. And behind each of these lie increased concerns,

real problems and unsolved tasks. For example, the earthquake area still lacks trailers for housing and there is not proper order in their allocation. There have also been numerous complaints about the order for paying out compensation and monetary aid. The people are indignant over the formalism and leveling. In actuality, is it just when a senior officer who has accumulated property over a score or two of years is paid the same compensation as a young lieutenant?

There are many problems with the construction of housing and schools. Who can remain indifferent to a situation when children are forced to study in tents, and when they are deprived of elementary sanitary conditions? All of this requires attention and concern from the deputy and we must be engaged in all of this on a daily basis.

[Mulyar] What can you say on the current situation in the region?

[Surkov] Things are quieter here. All enterprises are operating. The planned reconstruction work is underway in the earthquake region.

Newly Elected Deputy on Election: Gen Army Postnikov

18010600b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
5 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with General of the Army Stanislav Ivanovich Postnikov by Lieutenant Colonel A. Manushkin: "To Carry Out What Has Been Planned"]

[Text] **General of the Army Stanislav Ivanovich Postnikov has been elected the USSR People's Deputy for the Brest Territorial Electoral District 347. Our correspondent met with him and asked him to answer certain questions.**

[Manushkin] Comrade Army General, you must have felt the difference between the just held elections and those held previously?

[Postnikov] Of course. This could be felt from the very start of the electoral campaign. What distinguished the current elections—there was not the indifference of the previous years. Millions of people joined in the active political process of forming the corps of deputies. For the first time, we had competition of the candidacies, programs, platforms and positions in life. During these days we all went through a very effective school in democracy. The people felt themselves to be the full citizens of a great power. Here, of course, a clear and principled position is essential. Incidentally, this is essential for us constantly as an indispensable condition in perestroika. This, I feel, will also be aided by the state bodies being newly established now.

[Manushkin] How do you feel about the fact that you were elected by a majority of votes and not by a predominant majority, as you were before?

[Postnikov] I am not upset. I feel this an indication of the great democraticness of our elections. The election results show both a pluralism of opinions in our society as well as the free expression of will of the people.

[Manushkin] In the course of the electoral campaign the voters gave you orders. Your electoral program was extensive. What did it include? Certainly now, when you have become a USSR people's deputy, the time has come to carry this out.

[Postnikov] Yes, my campaign program was aimed at establishing a state of law and the necessary conditions for successfully carrying out reforms in the nation. In the course of meeting with the voters, I made amendments and supplements to my program considering their requests and orders. Due to the fact that I am a military man and that there were many servicemen among my electors, in the program I gave important significance to the questions of defense development. Under the conditions of a cut-back in the Armed Forces, we should do everything so that the nation's defense capability is strengthened.

We have developed an entire generation of military personnel who has been trained and educated with a reduced level of exactingness for themselves and too confident in the strength of administrative-pressure work methods. And at present, many leaders are endeavoring to carry out new tasks with the old methods.

A great deal must be done to reorganize the organization and establishment and reduce the number of managerial personnel. Great work must be done in improving planning and in educating the officers in independence in organizing service and the training process.

I see my task in strengthening social policy in the army in creating better conditions for service, combat training, everyday life and leisure of the personnel, in showing concern for the observance of rights, for satisfying the needs and interests of the servicemen and the members of their families. We feel the time has come to lift the restrictions on the wages of reserve and retired officers working after receiving their pension. We must also resolve the problem of social protection for the wives of servicemen.

In a word, there are many problems. Hence there is much work to be done. In taking advantage of the occasion, I would like via KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to thank all the electors who gave me their votes and also to assure them that I will dedicate all my strength to the cause of perestroika.

Naval Journalists' Program Victim of Reduction in Forces

18010600c Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
5 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Article by Warrant Officer 2d Class V. Pavlyuk from the Lvov Higher Military Political School: "A Saving in Quality"]

[Text] These are difficult times for us. The old and habitual is being swept away, the new and acutely necessary is making headway. Of course, nothing changes without a struggle. But still we are alarmed by the refined agility of this old style which schemes at getting by as "the father frost of stagnation" among the weak sprouts of the new.

Quite recently at the Lvov Higher Military Political School, they established a naval department of journalists. They settled a question which for decades had not been settled. And for decades specialists had been trained for the fleet newspapers under a combined-arms program, in studying military disciplines far removed from the fleet. After a month or two (at best), the graduates were informed that they would be sent to the fleet. They quickly put on a different uniform and, having "jumped out" of their officer candidate boots, became naval officers.

No, it was rare that such a change evoked any desperate reticence in an officer candidate, but all the same the sailor graduate felt a certain pending doom as he had not been able to become acquainted with the fleet. How would he work?

Don't worry, they said calming him down, we will give you a few review lectures and then you can get on your feet in the navy....

And such a graduate had to start from scratch. It was all the better if he did his practical work and tour of duty in the fleet. But still the school was searching for an opportunity to somehow prepare the future naval journalists, at least morally.

Yes, our graduates have something to remember. Many of them, to their honor, overcame the initial barrier of "incompatibility," having subsequently become professionals who were knowledgeable and fond of the Navy. But still there were some who "drowned" as a journalist, having suffered a fiasco precisely because of incompetence and confusion in the initial stage. What would happen with a person who became the editor of a newspaper on a cruiser immediately after school? That is, he was a ship officer without any systematic notion of shipboard service.

But now a fresh wind of changes has begun to blow. Finally, the requests of many generations of graduates who work in the fleet press were taken into consideration. They have already selected ten men for each

course for those desiring to serve in the Navy. This required a good deal of effort on the part of the former chief school, the senior instructor for the chair of cultural-educational work, Capt 2d Rank N. Shkulev, for the Deputy Chief of the School Colonel V. Yablonko and for many others. The first and therefore the most difficult steps have been taken. A program has been worked out which was approved by the chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. We should be happy. But that was not to be. This was too early.

It was learned that there would be no admission to the first year for the future training year for the naval company of journalist students. Why? The reply at first was simple: there was to be a cutback in the USSR Armed Forces and it was no longer advisable to train journalists for the fleet separately as they did not know how many would be required and there were expenditures for such training.

In the speeches of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and the Defense Minister, Gen Army D.T. Yazov, it has been repeatedly pointed out that the cutback in the USSR Armed Forces will be carried out by improving the quality parameter. Then the position of the officials endeavoring to avoid "surplus expenditures" is all the more incomprehensible. Where do they propose to save? In the quality of training for the personnel?

As was explained to us, there is a constant shortage of fleet journalists. Many newspapers in the fleets have been forced to fill vacant positions drawing on persons far removed from journalism but on the other hand who know the specific features of fleet life. Possibly the transfer of minds from one area to another is less expensive for the Armed Forces? Scarcely so if everything is taken into account.

Certainly the time has come to abandon economizing in quality. It is no secret that proceeding from the modern notion of the individual approach in the training process, they plan 15 officer candidates per instructor. There is no need to explain that quality instruction is achieved in this manner. We lack instructors of the naval disciplines. But this problem cannot be resolved by banning a naval specialty.

We are frequently reminded to take a look at the students in the special faculty. Just look how the foreigners study! But there you don't have to look far to see that for every instructor there are not more than 10-12 men.

I would like to believe that we will still learn to reckon and on this basis save in benefit and in a thrifty manner. Then our school will turn out trained naval journalists.

CC Greetings on 70th Anniversary of Political Directorate

18010669 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
17 May 89 First Edition p 1

[Article by CPSU Central Committee: "To Political Organs, Commanders, and Political Workers of the Soviet Army And Navy"]

[Text] Seventy years ago, in May 1919, the Political Directorate of the Republic's Revolutionary Military Council was formed at V.I. Lenin's initiative. The formation of a single system of leading party organs in the Armed Forces was completed by the establishment of a central military-political organ and its resulting transformation into the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy.

Throughout the entire history of its development, political organs thoroughly ensured the daily influence of the Communist Party in the lives and activities of the Army and Navy and tirelessly strengthened their fighting combat power. Political organizations made an invaluable contribution to the organization of the armed defense of the young Soviet Republic, the defeat of the counter-revolution, and the battle with foreign intervention. From the first days of the Great Patriotic War, commissars, political workers, and Army and Navy communists, located at decisive sectors of military battles, manifested courage and heroism, were shining examples of selfless service to the people, and true organizers of the masses in the struggle for freedom and independence of our Fatherland. They taught servicemen high moral, political and combat qualities, courage, valor, strength of spirit and unswerving will for victory over the enemy.

At the present time in the Armed Forces of the USSR as in all spheres of life of Soviet society, work is being persistently conducted for carrying out the decisions of the 27th Party Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference and for increasing and deepening revolutionary perestroika. Its most important task is the practical realization of the new political thinking in the area of the nation's defense, the re-orientation of the military structure, and training of the armed forces primarily on qualitative parameters in connection with the new defensive doctrine.

Under these conditions, the party considers it necessary to heighten the role of political organs and party organizations in the lives and activities of the Armed Forces. The political workers' duty is to always be in the very midst of the masses, to become firmly proficient in the methods of political leadership, to deepen democracy, and establish social justice. We must raise the activity and responsibility of communists, manifest concern about people, support their initiatives and creativity and, on this basis, attain high results in support of combat readiness and discipline, education of servicemen, and solidarity of multi-national military units. Henceforth, we need to strengthen the unbreakable spiritual ties of the Army and the people.

The CPSU Central Committee heartily congratulates the political organs, party organizations, commanders, political workers, and all communists of the Soviet Army and Navy in connection with the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the Political Directorate of the Republic Revolutionary Military Council and expresses certainty that from now on they will be a reliable combat contingent of the Leninist Party and the vanguard of Soviet servicemen in carrying out their patriotic and international duty in the name of the defense of the Socialist Fatherland, and preservation and consolidation of peace on Earth.

Qualitative Parameters: More Regimental Autonomy

18010638 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
25 Apr 89 p 2

[Article by Colonel V. Streltsov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent from the Leningrad Military District, under the rubric: "Combat Readiness: Qualitative Parameters" and entitled, "The Gate in the Fence: Concerning How The Regiments Lived Before and How They, who were competitors, are Living Now".]

[Text] In the training under discussion, there were quite a few instructive events. And as the commander of the Guards Motorized Rifle Krasnoselskaya Division, who was present at the training grounds, Guards Colonel A. Obukhov justifiably noted, many of them called to mind the worthy changes in combat training associated with troop qualification on the tactics revival course. But I would like to dwell on one episode in particular.

It was like this. The assault by one of the defending elements turned out to be so significant, that the division commander rejected his plan of attack and modified the "H" hour. For tank crewmen located in the second echelon, this created no small number of problems. The previously reconnoitered routes of advance to the line of departure for attack now had to be negotiated in less time. And for the Guards battalion of Major A. Goncharov, which was operating on terrain that was difficult for tanks, this tactical problem, as it turned out, was far from being resolved.

Racking his brains on how to respond to the developing situation, the regiment commander was on the verge of shifting the combat formation of his unit. But at this moment, the commander of the adjacent regiment, Guards Lieutenant Colonel V. Voloshin came up on the radio. He proposed that Goncharov's battalion advance straight across the swamp. But the officer hesitated—the vehicles, after all, would not get through. "I promise, my people are already at work..."

Naturally, Guards Lieutenant Colonel Voloshin had not foreseen this situation at all a short time before when he issued orders to the battalions to lay out corduroy [log] roads over swamp locations in the rear areas. He had simply made a decision to prepare dependable routes for the withdrawal of subunits to their secondary positions. In battle, anything can happen. And the more so, when, in the opinion of the regiment commander, withdrawal could become the decisive maneuver.

Now, however, the neighboring tank crewmen needed the corduroy roads, and for that reason the motorized rifle men quickly laid out the few meters of planking. Barely had the men of Guards Captain A. Vasilikhin finished their work when the tanks drove across the road...

We recalled this event in our recent conversation with Viktor Vasilevich Voloshin.

We talked about coordination between subunits of different combat arms in search of ways to accelerate combat training, and to carry out other missions one might encounter

Voloshin mentioned that during training, after all, coordination somehow took care of itself, but under normal routine things seemed to be different...

One could probably not agree with the regiment commander on everything. Experience shows that coordination with tank crewmen, motorized rifle personnel, aviators and snipers is also not so easy to achieve during organized training. But then, as they say, there's nowhere to retreat.

And yet in daily practice the regiments of a division, separated from one another by fences, frequently grapple with problems that arise with what is called an individual approach. The Guards Krasnoselskaya regiments are no exception. Although it should be mentioned that the situation has changed for the better recently.

What can you say—living with one's tanker comrades could be difficult until recently—as I was quite frankly told by the first motorized rifle battalion headquarters commander Captain A. Bandurko. When they led the way in ground forces competition or even in the military district, we were like servants to their regiment. It was not enough that we gave them our equipment to use, our fire support, and performed maintenance—and we also cleaned their regimental area, and unloaded coal for them. In summary—they received the honor and glory, and we got the role of an escort regiment. Beyond their fence they would hand out decorations for annual achievements, but their leaders forgot to even say thanks to us. Even from our very own neighbors, a thank you was rarely heard.

The issue of difficult mutual relations between neighboring regiments is set forth in that officer's account. Actually, in an extreme situation, when there is no time to analyze relations, whether they are service related or strictly human, it's somewhat simpler. In combat, even if it is training, we are unified not only by an order, but also by a special force through the influence of which you cover your neighbor whether he's good or bad, and give all you've got in order to help. This force is our military brotherhood. But at the same time in our routine existence, as we see, it is perhaps more difficult to embrace such values as mutual respect, orderliness, and ... mutual interest. Without that, people who understood one another at a word on the field of battle yesterday are unable to achieve coordination on, say, a supply problem today.

That, essentially, is how it turned out for the regiments we have discussed.

A regiment, of course, is a large, independent, completely autonomous tactical organism. For better or worse, it is provided with everything it needs in principal to sustain itself. And even when higher authority favors its neighbors

for some special reason, it can go on living. Even when that unfairness is bothersome. That's how regiments coexist. They nurture no special relationship with one another. They "cooperate" when higher headquarters orders them to do so.

I recall a time when, understandably, there were some grounds in general for alienation. It was not enough that the best gear, newly equipped training sites, furniture, those replacement gun barrels—everything went to neighboring units while motorized rifle troops, going without attention, were frequently deprived of any real opportunity to conduct combat training, and to carry out to the fullest those missions that were assigned to the regiment.

That's how it was in those not too distant times, when we tried to create visibility in the press and in public life for regimental, ship, divisional, and even military district competition.

Today, the times of a stagnant press and overblown initiatives have receded into the past. And the hearts of motorized rifle troops and tank crewmen are thawing out. They have begun to look more kindly on one another. And even a three-meter concrete fence which separated their areas, which previously gave cause to many a sharp witticism, is no longer taken as a symbol of alienation. Incidentally, I was informed that a decision was made to construct a gate in the fence. Was it really normal, as they discussed at the regimental headquarters, that in order for soldiers to visit their fellow countrymen, not to mention for duty purposes as well, to have to climb over a wall?

Contacts are being established. At meetings, platoon and company commanders plan joint events. Motorized rifle troops and tank crewmen are addressing front line experience more often. I was able to hear a great deal from officers controlling military district combat training on how this experience is realistically applied to personnel training. In particular, they gave special approval to the dedication of regiment commanders who included combat episodes from the Great Patriotic War during tactical meetings with officers.

The above example of coordination in training also reflects, to a certain extent, the experience of infantry, tank, and artillery subunits of the 54th Army on the Volkhov Front in 1943 during engagements near Leningrad. On the eve of a training event, at a commanders call which included motorized rifle and tank crew personnel, an episode taken from the memoirs of frontline tank regiment commander Colonel P. Kiselyev was recounted...

Naturally, much has changed from that time for regiments, both in equipment and in tactics. But there are values which are not transitory. Specifically, the common experience of searching for the answers to fundamental problems. And today, under the auspices of perestroika, this helps servicemen of different combat arms to improve their proficiency, and to resolve many other problems. For the first time in the military district, for example, a new target

control system was introduced on a combined arms firing range at a base which housed two regiments. Both tank crewmen and motorized rifle troops quite actively assisted specialists from the Main Directorate of Combat Training for Ground Forces and the military district innovators led by Colonel V. Vlavchuk.

Coordination between regimental headquarters has become more topical. In plans for conducting battalion and company level training they have already begun to coordinate independently, without the intercession of division headquarters. They share the experience of organizing troop service, and in increasing the capacities of training systems. Voloshin asked his neighboring units to select an officer to command a tank company for him. They responded quickly, and provided their best platoon commander. Senior Lieutenant I. Bessonov, after all, would have had to wait for the position of company commander in his own regiment to become available in the old days...

Now Voloshin, in turn, has been given a request; the tankers ask that he provide a candidate for the position of reconnaissance platoon commander. They also hope that the best of all qualified officers will show up.

An exchange of personnel is an exchange in experience. Tank crewmen have no lack of resources in the methodology of fire support. Gradually, these resources find their way into the hands of the motorized riflemen. While observing the conduct of TST by one of the tank companies, I noticed it was not performed in the traditional way. The neighboring units nevertheless adopted the tanker principle—devoting exercise time completely to training conditioning, and not to procedures by drill and long winded explanations. In Voloshin's regiment, a system of competitive mission assignments to officers was introduced which later became the basis for fast breaking synopses.

And coordination is expanding, growing stronger. Already, there are joint think sessions at the regimental political committees. One is for creating a discussion club. Another aims at resolving the difficult problem of finding employment for wives by including their input, to organize work at home, of establishing a branch office shop from one of the Leningrad firms in the housing area...

In general, there are joint plans in the regimental collectives, there is a desire to work and communicate.

But what about competition? These two regiments, after all, are long standing rivals? That's the question I asked the division commander in parting.

Do you know what Voloshin said not long ago while sending his people to the district tank crewmen competition: "You can place anywhere, as long as our neighbors place after us". And what do you think, the commander smiled. His tankers took first place. They brought home the honorary title of top crew in the district...

So then, competition continues. But now as equals.

**22 Units, Including 13th Guards Tank,
Withdrawing From Hungary**

18010646 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in
Russian 26 Apr 89 p 3

[By A. Kaverznev: "Homeward Bound!"]

[Text] In accordance with the decision of the Soviet government, a withdrawal of a part of our forces from the territory of the HPR [People's Republic of Hungary] began yesterday.

Without doubt, the Kishkunkhalash installation, 150 km south of Budapest, has never undergone such an invasion of foreign journalists. Two "Ikarus" buses packed full, dozens of cars—140 people in all, representing the world's major publications, press agencies, and television companies. Frankly speaking, the correspondents' visit was not planned in advance. The first rail train of combat equipment was to be sent off quietly, but the journalists insisted on being present. The significance of this event was tremendous—the dispatch to the motherland of the first tank battalion within the framework of the unilateral withdrawal of a part of USSR forces and armaments from the territories of the GDR, CSSR, and HPR, announced by the Soviet leader at the speaker's platform of the United Nations.

In all 22 units are being withdrawn from Hungary, among them the 13th Guards Tank Division at full strength, a tank training regiment, a airborne assault battalion, a fighter air regiment, a chemical defense battalion, a school for lower-rank specialist personnel, and other detached units. This information was announced by Colonel General M.P. Burlakov, Commander of the Southern Group of Forces, at a press conference in Budapest.

The first complement left the loading area at Kishkunkhalash at 1210 on 25 April. The tanks, sounding their deep-voiced horns, drove one after another onto a trestle, and from there to railroad flatcars. The lead vehicle was entrusted to Private Shukhrat Ergashev. Before the Army he worked as a tractor driver in the village of Bozaryk in Chimkent Oblast, and in the Army he made the transition to the steering lever of a combat vehicle and became a rated specialist. He did not leave the flatcar, despite the assault of the journalists, until the tank was secured firmly. But afterwards he immediately became a celebrity. The correspondents also surrounded the regimental commander Lieutenant Colonel V.B. Zaytsev. What is the fate of the unit entrusted to him?

"The regiment will be deactivated [rasformirovan]. Part of the equipment will be sent to storage bases, part will be turned over to the national economy, and part, apparently, will be melted down. The officers will continue to serve in other units; it has already been determined just where each will be sent."

Dep Chief of General Staff on Draft Deferments

18010546 IZVESTIYA in Russian
30 Mar 89 Morning Edition p 6

[Interview with Col Gen G. Krivosheyev, deputy chief of General Staff, USSR Armed Forces, by IZVESTIYA correspondent N. Sautin: "Military Service—Deferments for Students and Other Changes in Call-Up Obligations"; date and place not given]

[Text]

[IZVESTIYA] The next call-up will start in April. Parents—and draft-age youth themselves—have as usual numerous questions. For example, what date is considered to be the starting date of active military service?

[Krivosheyev] For those who are called up in the first half of the year, the starting date is considered to be 1 July; for those called up in the second half of the year, it is 1 January of the following year.

[IZVESTIYA] But there are many complaints relative to keeping soldiers and seamen in service longer than their specified tour of duty.

[Krivosheyev] The minister of defense, if he sees fit, is authorized to extend the tour of duty of service personnel for a period up to two months.

[IZVESTIYA] Rumor has it that it is planned to lengthen the duration of military service.

[Krivosheyev] That is merely what that is—a rumor.

[IZVESTIYA] Who carries out the call-up and determines the branch of service that is to receive a particular conscript?

[Krivosheyev] Conscription boards, which are set up in rayons. These organs are part of the Soviet government, not our ministry.

[IZVESTIYA] Could you tell us something about who makes up these boards?

[Krivosheyev] The board chairman is the rayon military commissar. The members are the deputy chairman or member of the rayispolkom; representatives from raykoms of the CPSU and the VLKSM [All-Union Lenin Young Communist League]; the chief or deputy chief of the RUVD [rayon administration of internal affairs]; and a physician. The membership is subject to approval by the rayispolkom.

[IZVESTIYA] What other function does the board fulfill?

[Krivosheyev] Determination of draft deferments; acceptance or rejection of draft-age youth based on state of health and related circumstances; and examination of candidates for admission to military schools.

[IZVESTIYA] Could you provide additional information on draft deferments?

[Krivosheyev] The term "deferment" is defined as postponement of military service. It is granted on the basis of an a youth's domestic situation, his need to continue his education, or a medical condition. A deferment is granted only by a judgement rendered by the conscription board.

This action is dictated by law. It is clearly stipulated and not subject to any other interpretation. However, the Ministry of Defense does receive a flood of various requests and petitions on the subject of deferment. Our ministry—and Army General D. T. Yazov personally—are not authorized to handle this matter.

[IZVESTIYA] Many parents of pension age make reference to the law in their petition to obtain a deferment for their son.

[Krivosheyev] This request is justifiable, but only on the condition that the parents are dependents of the son.

[IZVESTIYA] Let us touch on another topic - students and the Army. There are still many points here that require clarification.

[Krivosheyev] Starting in the spring of 1989, deferments for continuation of education will be granted to the following:

Students attending VUZ's offering daytime instruction (regular classroom sessions).

Students studying in general education secondary schools and specialized secondary schools, including those offering evening and correspondence instruction, until the students graduate. However, the students may not be older than age 20, if before entering the specialized secondary schools they had not completed their secondary education.

Students enrolled in daytime (classroom) specialized secondary schools pursuing a reserve officer training program.

In the case of students enrolled in specialized secondary schools pursuing a reserve officer training program involving regular military subjects and VUZ students receiving military training in military science departments (this program is obligatory for all students enrolled in VUZ's that have a military science department), the deferment for continuation of education is equivalent to total cancellation of the active duty requirement.

[IZVESTIYA] A student cannot be inducted while he is enrolled in a VUZ. But what about after he graduates?

[Krivosheyev] Graduates of a VUZ that has no military science department are subject to induction. However, VUZ's of this kind are in the minority. Graduates of institutes having military science departments are certifiable as reserve officers and are not subject to the active duty requirement.

[IZVESTIYA] Has there been a rescission of the legally required induction for two or three years so that they can fill officer assignments?

[Krivosheyev] Only 2 to 4 percent of the annual graduating body that are reserve officers are inducted into the Armed Forces.

[IZVESTIYA] There is also service in the reserves, in addition to active duty. Many complaints are made relative to frequent inactive duty training sessions.

[Krivosheyev] Reserve enlisted personnel are subject to inactive duty training for the purpose of maintaining and furthering their military knowledge and to become familiar with new weapons and equipment.

[IZVESTIYA] What is the duration of these sessions?

[Krivosheyev] That depends on the age of the reserve personnel and difficulty of the military specialty or position classification.

The frequency and duration of training sessions for reserve noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel are as follows: Four to six times for up to three months, for ages up to 35; once or twice for up to two months, for ages from 36 to 45; and one month-long session for ages from 46 to 50.

Reserve officers also attend inactive duty training sessions and are subject to induction. Officers belonging to the first reserve component attend up to three months once a year; members of the second reserve component have two sessions of up to three months duration each. Third component officers have a single two-month session. The total amount of training time cannot exceed 30 months while on reserve status.

The USSR government can also issue an order to mobilize reservists of all categories to participate in cleanup operations after the occurrence of natural calamities (such as the earthquakes in the Armenian SSR) and industrial accidents.

[IZVESTIYA] Will it again be necessary for thousands of servicemen to assist rural workers in the harvest?

[Krivosheyev] There is no other recourse, since our agriculture is so wanting. The government's decision in this matter remains in force.

[IZVESTIYA] Reservists called to attend inactive duty training sessions receive their average monthly pay. Who will pay members of cooperatives? Their numbers are growing.

[Krivosheyev] That question remains open.

[IZVESTIYA] Are the military commissariats obligated to notify local soviet organs and enterprise managers beforehand when reservists are to be called to attend inactive duty training sessions?

[Krivosheyev] Yes. This precludes various complications in the production activity of persons subject to military service.

[IZVESTIYA] Has this system proved itself to be useful relative to regular and special training of reservists?

[Krivosheyev] Completely. This is both a way for the USSR Armed Forces to administer military training to reserve personnel and facilitate the burden of military service for the people by reducing the cost of maintaining the Army and Navy.

Warrant Officer Arrested on Petty Charge, Shot Trying to Escape

18010525 KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
19 Mar 89 1st Edition p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent Col V. Zhitarenko under the "Man and Law" rubric: "A Mania of Unrestricted Liberty: How 'Common' Violations of Regulations Led to Tragedy"]

[Text] On 31 December of last year, at about 1800 hours, the office of the commandant of the Nth garrison was visited by Warrant Officer N. Prasolov, who was on a mission assigned by headquarters of his construction detachment. The mission consisted of taking into his custody soldiers who had been detained by the patrol service. It was at this time that he was told that he was out of uniform and advised to make the change. The warrant officer had his own opinion in this matter.

To be more precise, the lined jacket he was wearing is to be worn with the warm trousers. However, not very many men wear the warm trousers; the everyday, wool-and-cotton style is preferred. I know the post rather well, and dozens of times noticed that the commanders of units of the Guards Tank Kantemirov Division stationed there and their staff officers did then, and even now, after what happened there, take liberties in wearing the winter uniform. It seems that the rules in this case apply only to warrant officers and junior officers. It is a form of selectivity.

Be that as it may, Warrant Officer Prasolov was obligated to satisfy the demand made by Senior Lieutenant S. Miroshnichenko of the commandant's office. Why did he not do this? We can only guess. He was the company

duty officer on that day and had much on his mind. If he were to heed the commandant office's suggestion, he would have to hitch a ride to travel the many kilometers to his living quarters and return to the commandant's office; it would be midnight before he could complete all his tasks in the subunit. He was looking forward with great anticipation to celebrating the new year with his wife of one month.

Another not insignificant fact was that Prasolov was an "Afghan." He had recently been in combat and had gone through quite a bit. Also, he would take extreme offense at any affront to his integrity. Witnesses testify to the manner in which he was spoken to in the commandant's office. Thus, Garrison Commandant Captain A. Mamyrallyev, who quickly joined the conversation, considered it necessary to say to the warrant officer: "People such as you corrupt the Army." After hearing the reply "People such as I keep the Army together!", he accused the warrant officer of provoking an argument, insubordination, and acting like a cad. Mamyrallyev was later to claim that Prasolov also did not hesitate to use strong language. However, even if that is what really happened, was it the place of the garrison commandant—the principal practitioner of order and of the rules of military behavior—to lose control of himself and let his arrogance take over?

It must be admitted that he was still a "fresh" commandant. The order appointing Mamyrallyev to the position was signed on 8 December. Three weeks were required to process the papers. Thus, Avuakir Kazakhovich felt that he was in full authority only on that day—the last day of the year.

Mamyrallyev was also one of the "Afghans." As reconnaissance platoon leader he saw action in 120 combat operations and was awarded two decorations. Recorded in his efficiency report is the entry: "Proved himself to be a courageous and valorous combat commander."

This author can add the following: He is self-critical, but also touchy and self-assured. Avuakir Kazakhovich and I became acquainted somewhat more than two years ago, during a fall performance trial. On that particular occasion his reconnaissance platoon did not achieve a rating of "excellent." That was hardly the officer's fault, since the troops worked all summer to carry out the superior officer's order, spending more time making improvements in the district training center than on combat training. Nevertheless, Mamyrallyev took his relative failure to heart and considered that only he was to blame. He felt that he could and should have found some time for this significant training even under the difficult conditions of the time. What senior officer would not take a liking to such a subordinate?

Avuakir Kazakhovich and I met again several months ago. The occasion was construction of the post's so-called house of justice. This building was soon to house the commandant's office, the procuracy, tribunal, and a

guardhouse. Mamyrallyev was offered supervision of the work, not without reason. It was broadly hinted that he could take over the central office on the second floor. He did his utmost. He came out and stated openly:

"I will put everything in order on the post!"

Strengthening of order was the major reason the new commandant was chosen. The headquarters staff of the division and district preferred Mamyrallyev to the other candidates for the position since they knew his character.

All of a sudden some warrant officer tried to prove something to him—the garrison commandant. If things were permitted to slip further, he—Mamyrallyev—could hardly be expected to justify the hopes placed on him by his superior officers.

The captain apparently made the decision to detain Prasolov without considering the consequences of this action or if he had the authority to do so. Furthermore, upon hearing an objection—"I refuse to be confined in the holding cell!"—he was more than surprised at this outright disobedience. Therefore, he went even further:

"In that case, Comrade warrant officer, you are under arrest!"

Mamyrallyev goes by the book. In making the arrest, he rendered a smart salute and made the pronouncement in a solemn manner.

Prasolov disobeyed once more, stating that "You do not have authority in this." He added that he would leave now, and that the staff officers would have to deliver the detainees to the detachment themselves, and there could be no thought of his punishment.

The warrant officer was obviously adding fuel to the fire. More likely than not, it was this behavior that enraged Mamyrallyev. Nevertheless, he was not all wrong, since he must have known that a commandant is required to have a reason to detain a member of his unit. The regulations are quite specific on this point: This can be done only in the event a serviceman violates military discipline while in a state of intoxication, or if he cannot produce documents attesting to his identity, or if the documents are improperly filled out. As far as drinking is concerned, Prasolov was blameless. Relative to documents, none of the witnesses to the conversation between Mamyrallyev and Prasolov can recall any demand that the warrant officer produce them. However, the captain was later to state the opposite—that he did demand them, but Prasolov refused to present his identity card. It was determined an hour later that the warrant officer was indeed carrying the documents on his person.

There was much concerning this incident that was not clear to military procuracy workers, who on that day instituted criminal action. The establishment of a panel of experts on military law is a rare event, but that is what

was effected in this case. Officers from the Chair of Troop Command and Headquarters Service at the Military Academy imeni M. V. Frunze were assigned the task of reaching a finding relative to the possible basis in the general military regulations for the actions taken by the garrison commander and the other persons involved in the incident.

How often many of us brag about our knowledge of the regulations, and how often we are made to appear foolish by failing to determine the details of the regulations! The question comes up sooner or later: Who in the final analysis is supposed to be the final authority on regulations on the post? It should not be necessary to turn to the academy every time. Time and again you reach the same conclusion: undoubtedly the garrison commandant, among others.

However, there is justification for making the claim that Captain Mamyraliyev took over his position as commandant more on an intuitive basis than on a solid grounding in the regulations, including a knowledge of his rights and duties. In any event, his actions relative to Prasolov speak of this. So he decided to arrest the warrant officer. On what basis? Did the punishment fit the offence? It is generally known that arrest is an extreme measure, one to be used as a rule in cases where other measures have proven to be ineffective. But were there other measures? It was more a case of a haste to fix the blame and mete out punishment, something which is prohibited by the same regulations.

Mamyraliyev was to ignore such prohibitions a number of times in the few minutes the Prasolov incident was to last. Could it be that he also displayed ignorance of the letter of the law?

Incidentally, his most recent efficiency report contains the notation that he "requires more substantial grounding in theoretical matter." Thus, the officials that recommended the captain for the position of garrison commander must have known about this lack on the officer's part. However, they must have reasoned that he would acquire this knowledge on the job, that he could not help but do so.

The above does seem strange. I know how exhaustive the process of selecting a garrison commandant can be. I witnessed several strict examinations set up to screen candidates for this kind of position in district headquarters. I can attest to the fact that the majority of commandants are a model of strict compliance with the regulations. But here ...

Captain A. Mamyraliyev issued an order summoning Acting Guardhouse Commander Lieutenant A. Karepov, the guard commander, and two guards. Prasolov realized that they had come after him. That meant that it was more than a simple arrest—he was facing illegal confinement in the guardhouse. Did not everyone know that warrant officers, the same as officers, were to report

there without escort? In any event, it is prisoners that are subjected to restraint. Persons under investigation are another matter, but Prasolov had good reason not to consider himself to be one of them.

In spite of the fact that Prasolov's self-esteem was to suffer another blow, he decided to apologize to the commandant and plead with him. He even promised that he would report to the guardhouse on his own—the following day. He reasoned that there was no sense in his being arrested on New Year's Eve.

The commandant did not back down. Not only that: He made it clear to the acting guardhouse commander and guard commander that they themselves would be locked up if they did not confine Prasolov.

He was later to explain his actions by stating that he was obligated to take all measures necessary to maintain order to avoid obvious embarrassment at suffering outright insubordination on the part of the warrant officer.

Any commander or superior officer does have the above duty. This includes the garrison commander. This is not restricted to the authority of arrest or bringing a violator to trial. Article 7 of the Disciplinary Regulations, which covers such situations, even provides for the possibility of using a weapon. But what about this case? Was this outright insubordination? If there were a violation of the very basis of discipline, an attempt to frustrate a combat mission, or, finally, a case of treason, that would be one thing. But what if this were unwillingness to go along with illegal actions committed by the commandant?

How one decides here depends on who is to do the deciding. Warrant Officer N. Prasolov approached the commandant a second time, again asking that his arrest be put off. Even this did not help. Mamyraliyev insisted: this was "outright insubordination." He even instructed Lieutenant A. Karepov additionally:

"You can bind his hands if necessary, but be sure you put him in solitary confinement!"

By doing the above he once more exceeded his authority. However, now intoxicated with power, he could no longer contain himself.

When the procuracy started to ascertain the source of this mania of unrestricted liberty on the part of Mamyraliyev, an incident that had transpired 18 months previously surfaced. In this case a soldier jumped to his death from a moving vehicle. He and a service friend had been detained by a patrol on a charge of unauthorized absence from their unit. The patrol commander had ordered that their hands be bound. They decided to try to escape. One of them was successful in leaping from the vehicle, the other one died after smashing against the road pavement. The officer that issued the order to bind the hands was reconnaissance company Captain A. Mamyraliyev. This was the chain of unrestricted liberty

that was being investigated in that brief period of time. Attempts were made to cover up that incident. It was a close shave for Mamyraliyev.

A four-man escort seemed to Mamyraliyev to be insufficient. He instructed headquarters officer Senior Lieutenant S. Miroshnichenko to "back them up." The vehicle carrying Miroshnichenko was travelling alongside the marchers. The party was proceeding past division headquarters and the officers' mess. How did Prasolov feel about being stared at by fellow servicemen and acquaintances?

Prasolov asked quietly:

"Who will tell my wife that I will not be home today?"

Lieutenant A. Karepov replied without hesitation:

"I will."

Karepov had been wearing his officer's shoulder boards for less than two years. He had until recently served as platoon leader. Strictly speaking, he was still considered to be such on that ill-fated day, even though the order appointing him guardhouse commander was about to be issued. Much depended on the new commandant—on how he would evaluate the competence and "grasp" exhibited by Karepov.

The group was about fifty meters away from the guardhouse when Prasolov pushed the guard commander aside and shouted:

"I am leaving!"

He then ran in the direction of the nearby hospital. After being ordered to halt, he was warned that weapons would be used, and warning shots were fired into the air. He did not react. Karepov ordered that the guards aim for the legs. The ninth bullet struck Prasolov in the back of the head, killing him instantly.

Of course we can say that the warrant officer's actions were absurd in this situation. What sense was there in trying to escape? The point can be made that he throughout the incident creates the impression of a careless and moody person. In any event, I do not want my statements to be interpreted along the lines of: If you feel that your superior officer is wrong, you may safely disregard his orders. The point I wish to make is that first you should prove that he is wrong, then someone else—including a court—will help you prove this. First obey the order given by him who is authorized to do so! Was that really not clear to Prasolov? It is too late to admonish him now. But it is necessary to extract whatever lessons we can from his death.

In the findings reached by the panel of experts on military law, members Colonel P. Zelenskiy and Colonel I. Lyzak pointed out what appear to be a "minor"

infraction of regulations on the part of the garrison commandant: directing that Prasolov be confined in the guardhouse without undergoing a medical checkup; absence of personal articles for the prisoner; and lack of the proper uniform, as prescribed. Concerning another infraction—forming an unauthorized armed group for escort purposes—is difficult to explain in general.

Experience has shown many times: no one—from private to marshal—has the right to deviate one iota from the regulations. Let me say that the most terrible situation involves a person in authority who acquires the idea that he has total power over his subordinates. On the other hand, who permits him to do this!

In early January, as soon as the investigation of Warrant Officer Prasolov's death was completed, the district commander issued an order which, among other things, called for the removal of Captain A. Mamyraliyev from his position. The order still has not been complied with; Captain A. Mamyraliyev continues to occupy the position of garrison commander.

On a recent visit I learned that Mamyraliyev is still "dispensing" seven days of arrest to personnel without bothering to ascertain whether or not this may be the first offence of the enlisted man or noncommissioned officer standing in front of him. The same may be said for the "firmness" and attitude of guardhouse commander Senior Lieutenant S. Miroshnichenko, who also considers himself to be within his rights to mete out seven days to a soldier. On what basis? As "acting commander?" Could it be that Mamyraliyev was on leave or temporary duty at the time? Nothing of the sort. The guardhouse commander willfully exceeded his authority; he committed this act without hesitating.

Why bother to hesitate? Why worry about what enlisted personnel or noncommissioned officers may think? Why assume that they also have feelings of dignity, that they have their own understanding of their rights, not only of their duties?

Why be concerned about what is going on, if superior officers are looking on in silence? For example, may it be said that the garrison commanding officer—division commander Guards Colonel N. Loktionov—has no knowledge of what is going on in the guardhouse and the garrison commandant's office? And if he says nothing—does this mean that he approves?

I have heard people who are familiar with all the details of this case and those who know Mamyraliyev also say that he could become a good commandant in a year or so if he were to acquire experience, practical wisdom, and pedagogical tact. However, there is reason to believe that his superior officers did not hesitate to have him bring "rigid order" to the garrison; they expected him to institute severe measures. Why not? What difference is there what methods are used to attain the desired result?

Now the general feeling is: Mamyraliyev may have committed a mistake in interpreting the regulations, but it was a small one. However, it must be fully realized that what happened here was the death of a man. He died under such strange circumstances that one can only wonder. And after this should there still be a pretence that nothing out of the ordinary happened?

Are we to pretend that all is well, when the entire post is anxiously awaiting the see the outcome of the Mamyraliyev affair? At a time when the post continues to feel the weight of the omnipotence exercised by the commandant and his subordinates?

This kind of situation is not confined to Mamyraliyev, incidentally. This particular episode demonstrates the danger inherent in lack of supervision over any official that prefers his own interpretation of the regulations.

Incidentally, criminal proceedings have been brought against both garrison commandant A. Mamyraliyev and Lieutenant A. Karepov. What was his justification for ordering the guards to fire at the fleeing Prasolov? Was this a case of an assault on the guardhouse, the guards, or the guardhouse structure? Was Prasolov actually escaping from the guardhouse as such? Were the warrant officer's actions tantamount to treason, frustrating a combat mission, constituting a threat to someone's life? Even if we take into account the "instructions" Mamyraliyev gave to Karepov—incarcerate the warrant officer at all costs—the lieutenant still should have acted in accordance with the letter of the regulations. However, even he came to believe in his infallibility, the same kind of unrestricted liberty.

Unrestricted liberty is to be feared not only by those who feel the brunt of it. It is also disastrous for order in the Army proper. Mamyraliyev and his "followers" somehow formed the opinion that strictness bordering on brutality is the way to organize and discipline others. By stepping over the bounds of military legality, a commander invariably invites further violations on the part of his subordinates.

New Draftees Note Inequity of Longer Naval Term of Service

18010479a Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
28 Mar 89 First Edition p 1

[Article from Baltic Fleet by Capt 3d Rank L. Lyalin: "This First Road to Service".]

[Text] Parties of draftees will set off during April-June. It would be well for those persons responsible for organization and order en route to take account of the features which will be discussed in the following paragraphs.

The Kharkov-Kaliningrad train started off. Having taken their seats on the hard third-class benches, passengers cooled off after the commotion of boarding. Among them were 50 draftees placed under my supervision at

the oblast induction center for escort to the receiving station. I counted and it turned out that more than 170 persons were in the car together with the military party. It was simply crammed. Just before departure I directed the attention of the train station military commandant to this and heard the unruffled answer:

"They have to go."

My thought was that even though it may be stretching a point, let us assume that the young people are not old enough to report to districts and fleets independently (although I will note that they did report to the Military Commissariats before departure). Is it not possible to eliminate their transportation together with passengers? There are mutual inconveniences.

Nevertheless, I seated my wards as best I could, but there was no seat for me. I went onto the platform to have a smoke. Several individuals who had not shaved for a long time were already gyrating around the draftees. By the way, my party did not look any better: almost all of them were wearing old quilted jackets, caps with ear and neck flaps, and worn-out canvass boots. The external appearance of the future soldiers made some passengers apprehensive and generated compassionate sympathy in others. How did it become the custom to dress up for service almost in cast-off clothing? The fact is that civilian clothing can be sent home by mail. Perhaps draftees aren't told about this?

I returned to the car. The draftees shoved over and invited me to sit down by them. Before I found room on the very edge of the lower rack, I shifted my waist-belt and pistol. Oh, what a weapon! At the briefing I was categorically told: "Without it you will not be given the people in the Military Commissariat." On arrival I asked Lieutenant Colonel N. Sokolov, Chief of the induction center, whether or not that was so. He shrugged his shoulders wearily:

"We did not levy such demands. You have enough trouble without even a pistol."

But if we are speaking about requirements for persons placed on detached duty to receive and escort young replacements, the directive specifically prescribes that they have a personal weapon with them. That is not what I am talking about. The question is, what is it for? To pacify the new recruits on the streets of populated points, at the train station, on the train and in the aircraft? I know well that anything can happen en route, but using a weapon under such conditions will bring nothing but trouble. Moreover, how much effort and nerves it takes to see that the weapon is safeguarded on a trip that is difficult even without that.

Take the instruction pamphlet for the draftee. One reads with surprise that he is prohibited from stopping the train using the emergency brake except for cases in which a threat may arise to the train's movement or to people's

lives, and to jump into or out of the car on the move. One gets the impression that to the pamphlet's authors the draftee is a person who never has seen a train. But such are the rules of "instructionism". Regulate a person's every step and create the appearance that you are working actively to prevent accidents.

My reflections were interrupted by a light-haired draftee.

"Comrade Captain 3d Rank, why do people serve two years in the Army, but three in the Navy?"

I had been awaiting this question for a long time. It is constantly on the draftees' lips. I explained, as I usually do, that the problem is the Navy's complicated combat equipment that is difficult to master in short time periods, only I wondered whether or not my answer convinced my companions. Rejoinders poured from all sides: Do not other branches of the Armed Forces have what is most modern? I admit that it is difficult to answer such questions. Today you cannot discount the circumstance that the "extra" year is perceived by many as a violation of the principle of social justice. Constitutional duty is the same for all, but in practice it turns out somewhat differently. All this cannot help but affect the prestige of naval service. And so in the conversation with me the draftees vied with each other in asserting that they would like to end up on a warship and experience the romance of the sea, but when you think that your contemporaries will return home from the Army a whole year earlier...

The car quieted down toward night. The draftees were the last to settle down on the upper racks. Fatigue took its toll. Some of them had spent three or even four days at the induction center, and they were on the parade field from morning until late at night. No one was admitted into the barracks or other premises during the day. "But why?" I asked the induction center duty officer.

"We're waiting for a commission from the district," explained the officer. "There has to be order on the premises."

The notorious ostentation. The draftees encountered it on the very first days of service. But in general what do they know about it for now? After numerous conversations with the boys I became convinced that some of them had drawn a unique impression of Army life from those who had served their time—older brothers, friends and acquaintances. My wards just spouted out barracks "folklore". "Stay closer to the kitchen and farther from your supervisor," "The person who has more rights is right," "A curve around the supervisor is shorter than a straight line past him," and so on. What is happening? I believe that in some cases the "non-TOE military training officers" succeed in filling that "vacuum" which forms in a draftee's awareness as a result of miscalculations in military-patriotic education and basic military training.

While en route I tried to tell the draftees more about the Baltic Fleet and its people today, but I did not succeed in giving the political briefing recommended in the Fleet Rear Services Political Department. Throughout the trip central newspapers could not be obtained from Soyuzpechat newsstands at train stations. The military commandants of stations through which we passed were not interested either in our party or its difficulties.

Constantly in contact with my boys (that is what I call them privately), I tried to draw for myself a collective portrait of the draftee, if only in a few features. Half of the lads were from single-parent families. Many had stepfathers. There were also orphans brought up by grandfathers and grandmothers. Almost no one came from a large family. On the other hand, many were only children. It is difficult for such people in a collective at first. While two or three years ago one hundred percent of draftees came in as Komsomol members, many now are not. Of the 50 boys there was not one from the family of a party, soviet or economic official. It is not the first time I have encountered this, and it is strange. Do responsible officials really have no children? Or do they not serve?

I will also not ignore the following feature. Almost all answered my question of who used alcohol before service in the affirmative. By the way, I myself became convinced that many had tried to "celebrate" a new stage in their biographies before setting off on the trip.

In short, from all appearances no easy life awaits those commanders who will get my wards. But I will also say something else. We do not have the right to place our own failures and blunders in educational work at the door of "civilian life," which already has shaped the young people in some ways.

Readers' Opinions on Proposed Officers' Conferences

Meeting is Social Self-Organization

18010479b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
28 Mar 89 First Edition p 2

[Letter by Colonel Yu. Mamontov, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, under the rubric "We Discuss the Draft Statute": "The Officers' Conference: What Is It To Be Like?: As a System of Self-Organization"]

[Text] In the discussion of the draft Statute on the Officers' Conference, opinions have been expressed about establishing it as an organization called upon to accomplish combat training missions, decide questions of advancement to a position, decide questions of monetary remuneration and so on. It appears that such an idea is incorrect. In my view, an Officers' Conference must not be among the varieties of a formal organization aimed at accomplishing official missions. It is rather a

subsystem of a social self-organization arising as a result of interpersonal relationships which form in the process of Officers' lengthy interaction among themselves.

In spontaneously forming its own standards of behavior, such an association of Officers' presents an opportunity to give each other mutual support on the basis of reciprocal trust and of a general and military outlook. As a system of self-regulation of relationships, it is established on the basis of an identification of public opinion and consequently cannot be based on purposeful management effect. It is not by chance that the opinion about giving the meeting functions aimed at affirming the priority of honest labor and strengthening personal discipline and the officer's dignity and honor predominates in the pages of the military press.

As we see, opinions incline toward recreating a mechanism for the protection of social justice and forming a tool of genuine democracy and legal protection. This must be a unique Officers' club where there is a search for the correct correlation of personal and collective responsibility and coordination of the interests of individuals, military collectives and the Army as a whole.

I believe that the Officers' Conference can and must be used above all for supporting everything foremost in service, for generating new military traditions, and for establishing genuine values of Soviet society.

In my view, in principle such a public organization should not be headed by the unit or ship commander. It can be headed by an officer recognized as an authority in others' eyes. Under conditions of democratization and glasnost, the factor of leadership originates as a result of self-expression of personality traits and recognition of their priority by others, and not by means of appointment from above. There is no infringement on one-man command in this. It is fully possible that objections can be substantiated by referring to instances where a number of commanders possess the qualities of a leader. It seems that having the commander occupy the post of meeting chairman is not at all excluded when such is the public opinion of the Officers', but exceptions cannot and therefore should not be consolidated in a rule or in regulation norms.

Officer Honor Code Needed

18010479b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
28 Mar 89 First Edition p 2

[Letter by Major V. Tsybin, unit commander, under the rubric: "We Discuss the Draft Statute": "The Officers' Conference: What Is It To Be Like?: Honor Is Dearest of All".]

[Text] It is well that KRASNAYA ZVEZDA raised the problem of a revival of honor in connection with establishment of the Officers' Conference. This question cannot help but excite an officer who cherishes his title even the slightest bit. There is now a flow of

reproaches—sometimes just—addressed to officers. I for example cannot get rid of the thought: Why did that happen? Here you cannot say unambiguously that such-and-such a person is at fault. Unquestionably, those officers are guilty who by their conduct give reason for various kinds of reproaches. In my view the system for training officer cadres is at fault as well, but we will also not discount the fact that concepts of an officer's honor are rather eroded, downgraded and devalued in our officer environment itself. It is ridiculous when, in talking about the meeting, a correspondent worries about the ideological aspect, so to speak, of the activities of this future organization: Are we not emulating the officers of the Russian Empire? Do we really have nothing to borrow, for example, from that segment of Russian officers who stood up for the Revolution and provided a brilliant galaxy of commanders and military leaders of the Great Patriotic War?

In my view, the Officers' Conference being established needs an "Officer Honor Code."

Conference Needs Legal Status

18010479b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
28 Mar 89 First Edition p 2

[Letter by Major S. Shalaykin, unit propagandist, under the rubric: "We Discuss the Draft Statute": "The Officers' Conference: What Is It To Be Like?: With a Right to Vote".]

[Text] I consider it my party duty to join my voice with those who favor having the Officers' Conference be given the status of a legal organization with real powers, and not just the capability of making proposals. But if the decision is made to grant the Officers' Conference only the right of deliberative vote, just one more formal-bureaucratic organization will thereby be established. I believe that this in no way will suit the officer collective.

The person whom the correspondent was interviewing expressed doubt about the advisability of placing the commander in the position of an ordinary member of the meeting. Perhaps, however, it is in this position that he will be closer to his subordinates and their wants, needs and problems? The fact is that the commander is in the position of a rank-and-file party member in the party organization; this surprises no one and the question of undermining one-man command does not arise.

I cannot understand why it is customary to believe that the commander is more concerned for the job than his subordinates. I assume that it is only for this reason that doubts arise over who should be chairman of the Officers' Conference. Here I am wholly in agreement with Captain Kostyrin (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 29 Jan): if the Armed Forces leadership really is counting on an officer public capable of realizing democratic initiatives in the interests of achieving a quality condition of the Army, it must see to it that the Officers' Conference is legitimized as a legal entity with real powers. It seems to

me that this in no way will undermine one-man command—to the contrary, a commander will only strengthen his authority by relying on resolutions of a general officer meeting, but individualism and autocracy (into which one-man command develops rather often) will be cut off at the roots. Such a meeting will be a real force in the fight against bureaucratism, protectionism, nepotism, deference to rank and other dirty phenomena which still occur, including in the Army.

Conference Needs Democratic Nature

18010479b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
28 Mar 89 First Edition p 2

[Letter by Admiral V. Samoylov, Commander of Leningrad Naval Base, under rubric: "We Discuss the Draft Statute": "The Officers' Conference: What Is It To Be Like?: More Democracy".]

[Text] The establishment of a permanently functioning public organization in the USSR Armed Forces in the form of the Officers' Conference unquestionably meets the spirit of democratization of Army and Navy life. I am convinced that it will help many officers occupy an active position in the perestroika movement and reveal each person's capabilities and abilities more fully.

I believe many will agree with me that it is possible to undermine some officers' faith in the democratic nature of this public organization by programming the unit commander (or chief of establishment) as meeting chairman in advance. In my view, this cannot be allowed. Therefore I suggest that the category "Officers' Conference Chairman" be abolished and leadership be assigned to the Officers' Conference council and council chairman, who are elected by secret ballot. The unit commander must be a rank-and-file member and run for Officers' Conference council on a universal basis.

Now a few words about rights and powers of the Officers' Conference. The recently adopted Law "Elections of USSR People's Deputies" provided for nominating candidates for deputies from public organizations. Taking into account that our Army is an inalienable component of the Soviet people and lives with their interests and concerns, it would be fair to grant the Officers' Conference the right to nominate its own representatives as candidates for deputies both of local soviets and of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

True, in this instance the law requires establishing a unionwide entity of the public organization. In the process of elaborating the statute on the Officers' Conference a provision obviously should be made for such an entity at the level of the country's Armed Forces. It could be a union or an association of Officers' Conferences.

To strengthen the role of the meeting it is necessary to grant it the right of petitioning the command authority for a delay in recommending officers who have committed offenses for higher positions, for being promoted to the next military rank and for study. Expulsion from the meeting for a certain period hardly justifies itself. It is considerably more beneficial if an officer always is under the influence and supervision of the public. It is also necessary to clarify the question of logistic support of the meeting's daily activities. Voluntary monetary dues clearly are not enough to organize the leisure time and rest of its members, to give incentives for worthy persons and to assist those in need. It is advisable to consider the question of identifying a special financial estimate from USSR Ministry of Defense funds.

Conference on Troop Education Held in Minsk

18010487a Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
2 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed article: "Enrichment Through Experience"]

[Text] At the scientific and practical conference in Minsk, section chiefs of the political directorates of the branches of the Armed Forces, military districts, groups of forces and fleets, teachers at military and political institutions and academies, scholars, and military journalists thoroughly discussed methods for improving individual educational work in the Army and in the Fleet.

Lt Gen N. Boyko, member of the military council and head of the political directorate of the Belorussian Military District, delivered a report.

Lt Gen G. Stefanovskiy, deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, summed up the results of the conference.

Support Services Faulted, Officer Material Incentives Proposed

18010487b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
2 Apr 89 First Edition p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Borovkov: "Job Performance and the Ruble, or How to Arrive at Wage Leveling in Assessing the Service of Officers"]

[Text] The word "material" is rarely used among the troops when speaking of incentives. It is probably because an officer's salary practically does not depend on the results he and his subordinate [units], a division, regiment, battalion, or let us say, some service attain. Moreover, it is not a secret to anyone that the contribution of even one regiment's officers to the common cause are far from identical.

It is true that for those who do not feel sorry for themselves in service that there are more chances of being noticed. But is such "compensation" sufficient

today when Armed Forces life is being transformed in qualitative parameters and when we are all the more beginning to understand that we cannot get far on enthusiasm alone?..

Based on last year's combat training results, the Military District Military Council Red Banner was awarded to the Krasnodar Motorized-Rifle Division imeni Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet. The motorized-riflemen's job performance was marked by merit—they really took a step forward in combat improvement. And nevertheless, as analysis showed, results could have been higher if certain services would have taken support of the training process more seriously and had become commander's assistants not by "designation" but in essence. Why did they not work in that way, why is this generally old (and not only for the division named) problem arising?

I freely admit that someone from the division, having read these lines, will say: "And why does it in fact arise?" And that is just it. Let us take, for example, one of the formation's regiments received a "three" for rear [services] conditions which lowered the overall unit rating. And although this is in many ways on the rear services' workers' consciences, the first rebuke—[is] to the commander: They say he answers for everything.

And now let us imagine that an officer's salary is placed in direct relation to the end result. How would Lt Col G. Malyk, deputy commander for rear services of this regiment, and his subordinates feel in this situation? At the very least, there would not be a need to inspire these people, as they say, to service zeal.

But, alas, this is all just a fantasy. The reality is such that the commander's back turns out to be so very broad and it is so very convenient for those who have nothing in particular to boast about to hide behind it. They told me, for example, that Lt Col Malyk can spend the whole day as senior vehicle officer and occupy himself with the resolution of some sort of—I admit that they are really acute, but anyway very narrow and personal—problems. And as if the man is totally involved in the matter, but nothing [comes of it]... But do the regimental commander and subunit commanders not really expect such help from their deputy for rear services?

They can say to me: But what is the regimental commander himself up to? Can he not in the end compel or punish some subordinate who does not want to learn. All of this is true. However, as some jokers say among the troops, the number of reprimands does not affect your paycheck...

Of course, we are not talking about accusing the chief of services of all deadly sins. Yes and this is not entirely a chiefs of services matter alone. The problem is in the imperfection of the existing officer job performance rating system which, instead of affirming the principle of social justice, encouraging professionalism, and stimulating peoples' striving for self-improvement, frequently

actually "rewards" mediocrity as such and provides the opportunity to work not as needed or as required by the interests of the service and combat readiness, but as someone wishes to depending on his level of integrity.

Can we really call Lt Col Malyk a novelty? Combat in Afghanistan, decorated... But he changed his "profile" after graduation from the academy and he had to occupy himself with rear services issues at an entirely different level than before and a mass of complications arose. It seems he would have to approach his work with a special energy. Only why overtax himself and examine the minute details of calculations on rear services if it is much simpler to ask the commander for transport and people for work in the warehouses, yes and still also "to be offended" when that person cannot satisfy a request: He says, what, do I need more than the rest?

Not so long ago, I was an involuntary witness to a conversation between two captains, fellow-students of the engineering forces institute who had not seen each other for a long time. And when one of them proudly reported that he was recently named battalion commander, the other smiled: "I also strained to become a commander in my youth. Well good, I oriented myself in time. I was assigned as chief of engineers in a tank regiment. And now I know no sorrow."

"In what sense?" asked his friend.

"In the sense that I sleep well at night. I conducted several training exercises, saw how it was with the equipment, and I look over a paper at headquarters. Commanders 'work like horses,' but my business is monitoring and assistance. And my nerves are in order."

I do not know how that conversation ended but, in my opinion, it provides a clear illustration of how differently one can relate to one's profession and work in the Army while receiving practically one and the same money. By the way, many have long ago perceived this difference: and already some platoon commanders are not straining to be company commanders but chiefs of mess. And even command institute graduates are immediately striving for "headquarters" work... I do not know if there are any statistics in this regard, but the well-known army anecdote about the ideal duty variant—"a reduced-strength apiary," where there are no bees and there is honey, was not born in an empty place.

They sometimes say: Not he, they say, that officer went as far as he could with that enthusiasm. What relation to enthusiasm is there when one company under someone's command can gather as many people as another whole battalion can, one [officer] spends his whole career in the sand and the swamp, and the other in the groups of forces and the union republic capitals. And where does one get this enthusiasm when someone cannot take off his field uniform for days and someone else, as they say, cannot be lured out of his office.

Of course, one can be a dull commander with equal "success" even in the very backwoods or a genial chief of services, let us say, in the military district capital. But this not only does not remove the problem of "enthusiasm," but, on the contrary, requires a more differentiated approach to officer's salaries—that is, about what is being so frequently discussed today among the troops.

I touched on exactly this issue in a conversation with Col G. Petrov, chief of the military district personnel section. And the "story" of Maj B. Yefimov, chief of unit engineering services, was the cause of it concerning whom the last comrades court in honor of senior officers (and there were there altogether!) petitioned for his transfer to the reserve. Having successfully qualified for the rank of major and having obtained, as they say, all that he could, Yefimov actually kept himself aloof from active work. And therefore, when they named many unit chiefs of services with good reputations for me, Majors G. Dolgoplov, N. Lutsenko, S. Yerygin, and others, I was interested: and what if one of them thinks that he has attained all that he wanted? Will it not happen again as it did with Yefimov?

"This is a category of officers," agreed Col Petrov, "that really requires special attention. Therefore, while assigning them to these duties, we strive to take into account as completely as possible peoples' moral and business-like qualities. However, their great material vested interests could also play a major role. It is possible that there is sense in establishing a minimum and maximum salary for chiefs of branches of service and unit services.

I had the opportunity to hear other proposals, too. For example, officers lump sum monetary rewards would be paid, not at the end of the year as it is today, but would be broken down into several payments. First of all, it would be a constantly tangible incentive, as they say. Secondly, there is a guarantee that one single blunder would not cancel out an officer's efforts for the whole year as frequently happens now. Some even recall those times when officers were paid for class skills, considering that even today this issue could be resolved without reaching into the state's pocket by creating a "floating" percentage in officers' salaries. Naturally, such suggestions require expert assessments. But you agree that having a law today on servicemen's material responsibility (that is, "to hit with a ruble" the unhappy soldier and officer), it would also be good to have something similar for a material incentive.

There is an expression in the Army that certainly does not require any special explanation—"lying down on duty." As regards a commander or his political worker, it is true that we rarely have to hear that their duties obviously promote "lying down." We also do not hear it, for example, regarding Maj D. Levchuk, unit chief of motor vehicle services, and also about many of his "colleagues" whom I had the opportunity to meet. But I am reminded of how Acting Regimental Commander Lt Col V. Velichko joked, not without some concern, when

he talked about his unit's service operations. He spoke with satisfaction about Lt D. Petrov, chief of food services: "This officer is honest and he carries out his duties with vigor and diligence." And afterward, he added: "If only maturity will not lead him to 'lie down on duty'..."

And really we all hope that these words always remain no more than a joke.

Work of Spring Flood Commission in Volga MD
18010487c Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
2 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Maj Gen G. Kravchenko by Col O. Bedula: "Ready for the Flood"]

[Text] A Flood Commission is created each Spring at the Headquarters of the Volga Military District. Maj Gen G. Kravchenko is leading it for the second year in a row. Our correspondent Lt Col O. Bedula met with him.

[Bedula] Gennadiy Konstantinovich, what are the peculiarities of this year's expected spring flood?

[Kravchenko] You can already judge these peculiarities by the fact that our commission started its work ten days earlier than normal. Winter in the Middle Volga region was quite snowy. We know, for example, that river basin water reserves in the snowpack of just the small rivers today total up to 150 percent of the multi-year average.

[Bedula] Have all issues been coordinated with local authorities?

[Kravchenko] In general terms, yes. Thanks to the fact that committees for insuring preparation and passage of Spring flood waters were established in a timely manner under the oblast soviet ispolkoms, we are working in a coordinated and efficient manner. Garrison commanding officers periodically define specific objectives and areas for emergency rescue work through the local authorities and we assigned one officer from each unit or garrison to the oblast commission staff for organizing cooperation.

[Bedula] Which military subunits are engaged [in these operations]? How did their training go?

[Kravchenko] We assign civil defense, combat engineering, aviation, communications, and even artillery subunits to carry out these missions. Assigned personnel are instructed in the operation of non-organic, let us put it this way, situations.

[Bedula] You mentioned artillery. Is it really "appropriate"?

[Kravchenko] It is not excluded altogether. Ice blockages which have formed in the middle of a river can only be destroyed by it since combat engineers are powerless in this situation.

[Bedula] I noted during our conversation that several telegrams have already been brought to you marked "Spring Flood." What do they talk about?

[Kravchenko] Well, let us say this telegram is from the Orenburg ispolkom: "Request you assign a team including a demolition group and three pieces of floating equipment. We guarantee payment for explosives, equipment operating time, and labor costs."

[Bedula] This means that local authorities will, as we say, make a cash payment for the use of equipment and explosives?

[Kravchenko] Yes. Military units actually conclude agreements for conducting emergency rescue work with ispolkoms, organizations, enterprises, and kolkhozes, in which payment issues are also agreed upon.

[Bedula] Obviously, executive managers will attempt to use this equipment economically?

[Kravchenko] Alas, you are not altogether correct here. I have witnessed such episodes many times: Kolkhoz workers transport hay, straw, and other cargo on floating carriers. Sometimes personnel are utilized for secondary matters. And this occurs while the situation in another area is quite critical. This is what especially concerns me in this regard: At times, local authorities consciously avoid the flood situation while attempting to insure future use of engineering equipment and rescue teams for themselves. Then I have to get involved and correct [the situation].

[Bedula] Name the most outstanding flood operations soldiers.

[Kravchenko] First of all, there are the subordinates of officers V. Vishtalyuk, A. Makarov, Yu. Goncharov, and also Sergeant V. Kachanov, Jr Sgt O. Pidan, and Privates Ye. Kozlov and V. Kalanik. During this time, there were quite a few calls from regional centers, villages, and kolkhozes. Words of sincere appreciation spoken about our soldiers made us happy.

By the way, it is early to be reassured. The flood peak is still ahead and it may bring quite a few surprises...

Soldiers Departing Service Offered Opportunities on Farm

18010562 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
8 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Letter signed by Sergeant (ret.) A. Pronyagin; "Native Land"]

[Text] We, veterans of the First Shock Army, which fought on the Northwest Front decided to turn to the editorial staff with this letter. Not long ago we were fortunate enough to get together near Staraya Russa where once we liberated Poddorskiy Rayon.

We drove about those same lands where we once fought. The original Russian land—the so called non-black earth region—which forty-five years ago was covered with wounds is today seriously ill. It is as if it never really recovered from those same times when battles took place here. It is the economic or rather the lack of economic management of the last few decades which has led to this state of affairs. Once among the rivers and streams, the fields and forests there was a multitude of settlements and small villages. The climate is favorable. From the earliest times people from the entire okrug have raised wheat and flax, and have been renowned for the abundance of gardens here. And there was always enough feed for the livestock. And the orchards? During the spring they would burst out everywhere; the names of the villages themselves—Bolshoye Yablonovo, Maloye Yablonovo—testify to this.

We saw the destruction of all this with our own eyes during the war.

Today, having driven about the region, we noticed that in the post war years a substantial portion of the area has been restored. Especially in the last few years. New villages are springing up or, more correctly, old ones are being rebuilt. But everywhere we hear the same thing from the residents of the non-chernozem: there are not enough people in the villages. The land here has been yearning for smart, hardworking, effective masters, for all-around experts. As for equipment, tractors, living space, that is not a problem. We have enough and will get still more. The matter is one of young people, of concerned hearts. That is why we veterans of the front have decided to appeal to such hearts, to soldiers who have left active duty and become members of the reserves, to those officers and warrant officers who, as is well known, will soon be effected by the troop reductions. Try, you sons of ours, the happiness of our ancient Russian land.

For those interested in responding we will include an address: 175200, Novgorodskaya oblast, s. Poddore, executive committee of the rayon soviet of peoples deputies.

Cadre Officer on Reduction, Reserve Officer Status

18010650 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
30 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Colonel V. Stoyakin, group chief of the Main Directorate of Cadres of the USSR Ministry of Defense, by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel S. Levitskiy: "The Military Service of 'Two-Year Men'". First paragraph is an editorial introduction.]

[Text] What will the military service of "two-year men" be like under conditions of a reduction of the USSR Armed Forces? Our correspondent Lieutenant Colonel S. Levitskiy talks on this subject with Colonel V. STOYAKIN, group chief of the Main Directorate of Cadres of the USSR Ministry of Defense.

[Levitskiy] Valentin Andreyevich! The publication of the 11 April conversation with Colonel General G. Krivosheyev, Deputy Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff elicited a tremendous response from our readers. Here are the letters. Senior Lieutenant V. Trukhik of Medical Services asks whether he will be discharged into the reserves, or whether he has that most critical military occupational specialty indispensable to the Army and the Navy, as was mentioned in the conversation. The mother of an officer, L. Stankova, is worried what will become of her son—a "two-year man," as we say—in military construction.

[Stoyakin] Each specific instance will be considered separately. However, on the whole it is possible to say that the Army and the Navy are in almost constant need of officer cadres with higher education in aviation, medical, and construction specialties, as well as mathematicians, jurists, translators, communications personnel, and several others.

[Levitskiy] "What is going on?" writes Lieutenant N. Talashkevich. "Some institute graduates will serve, others will not. Is that really fair? Why doesn't the service school train 'critical specialty personnel'?"

[Stoyakin] It would prove prohibitively expensive to create military schools for training in some specialties, for which there is a periodic demand. At times it is a question of a great number of people. Aren't the departments of military science at the appropriate civilian higher educational institutions capable of training them?

[Levitskiy] I will read a typical letter: It is from a student, V. Bibov. "Why do they call up reserve officers straight out of the institutes? We cannot enjoy the advantages granted by the state to lower-rank specialist personnel."

[Stoyakin] That is a just observation. Beginning in 1990 reserve officers will only be called up from the workplace.

[Levitskiy] Reserve officer Ye. Zaytsev of Leningrad, referring to ARGUMENTY I FAKTY, No 7, asks if it is true that those who graduate from an institute with a degree in military science will not be called up, but will only have to undergo a two-month training period?

[Stoyakin] That is not true. The category of reserve officers in question have been called up for active military service and will necessarily be called up in the future in accordance with the Law "On Universal Military Obligation." It is another matter if we speak about reserve officers who earlier underwent compulsory service as draftees—soldiers, sailors, noncommissioned officers, or petty officers. A second call-up (including one for 2-3 years) is possible in peacetime only with their personal consent.

In connection with the not less, probably, extensive mail the Main Directorate of Cadres receives, I would also like to add to our conversation that deferments from call-ups for domestic reasons do not extend to reserve officers. Their military service is not the same as an enlisted man's. In each particular instance these questions must be decided directly in the military kommissariats.

Mig-29 Performance, Technical Specifications
18010453 Moscow *TEKHNIKA I MOLODEZHI* in
Russian No 2 1989 p 30-34

[Article by Engineers A. Velovich, L. Egenburg, entitled:
"MiGs At Farnborough".]

[Text] "I categorically disagree with Yu. Shtukarev (TM No 7 1988)! The journal absolutely should include military subjects. If we sent the latest fighter, the MiG-29, to the air show in England, then this is not 'military propaganda', asserts Yu. Grigorenko from Novosibirsk. "And indeed, where are young people to get information like this if not from such a popular and generally understandable journal? Our boys will have to serve in the Army or be in its 'combat reserve'. This means they have to know modern national and foreign weapons."

M. Shaykhutdinov from Naberezhniyye Chelnyye also believes this. He writes: "The USSR exhibited the MiG-29 and the An-124 aircraft at the international aviation salon in Farnborough. I would very much like to see a report of this exhibition on the pages of your journal."

Among people who have dedicated themselves to developing and flying aircraft, it has become a tradition to meet at air shows, to exhibit their new equipment there, and to exchange experience and opinions. And while the planes fly over the onlookers and the helicopters hover, contracts are signed in the comfortable chalets, as the offices at the exhibitions are called. Such aviation salons are organized in the American city of San Diego, Vancouver Canada, Singapore, Hannover FRG, Sydney Australia... The air shows of Le Bourget near Paris, which is held on odd years, and at Farnborough, which is held on even years, are considered the most prestigious.

The Farnborough exhibition of 1988 was an anniversary one—eighty years ago the first English airplane took off here, and 40 years ago the first such show was held, at the airfield of the Royal Aviation Institute. Now it will also go down in history because a Soviet combat aircraft was exhibited for the first time at it. Earlier we demonstrated only passenger, transport, and sports aircraft to the West. One can understand the English reporters who presented this news under sensational headlines: "MiGs in the Skies of England! The Russians Have Landed! Soviets Object of Universal Attention!" After all, the appearance of the MiG-29 fighters at Farnborough meant (or more precisely, confirmed) the USSR's new approach to international relations, based on openness in military affairs.

The MiG-29 is already being delivered abroad, and in the opinion of certain Western observers, it will share the fate of its renowned predecessor, the MiG-21, which joined the armament of the air forces of more than 30 countries.

Now the MiG-29 and its combat training dual-seat variant the MiG-29UB take off from the Moscow airfield, piloted by test pilots Anatoliy Kvochur and Roman

Taskayev. In the rear cockpit of the "two-seater", the experienced navigator Yuriy Yermakov sets the course. Above the North Sea, they are met by Tornado fighters from the 5th Squadron of the British Air Force, along with an aircraft with photo correspondents, and movie and television cameramen. The unusual subunit passes in tight formation over Farnborough airfield. Then the Tornados pull off, and our pilots maneuver in tandem, then come in for a landing. It is a sight to see, as the MiGs touch down simultaneously, then instantly release the braking chutes. Later English television was to show this impressive landing often.

In Farnborough the pilots are greeted by a ground crew that has flown in on a Ruslan. Kvochur and Taskayev describe how they had easily recognized their destination from such an impressive reference point...

Not long before the opening of the exhibition, the news of the tragedy at the air show in the West German city of Ramstein raced around the world. There, following an aerial collision of the Italian aerobatic group "Frecce Tricolori", three pilots and around 50 onlookers were killed, and more than 500 persons were injured. The English had worked out strict rules: the height of authorized level flight was to be no less than 30 m, aerobatics could be performed no lower than 60 m from the ground, and one had to pull out of vertical maneuvers at 150 m from the concrete. Onlookers were placed at the southern edge of the airfield, 150 m from the edge of the flight zone. Flights were observed by a special committee, consisting of respected English test pilots. They authorized execution of particular aerobatic maneuvers or barred violators from flying.

Chief pilot of the OKB [experimental design bureau], Honored Test Pilot of the USSR, Hero of the Soviet Union Valeriy Menitskiy, who worked as a trainer, recalls "Our program began with a short takeoff roll, transitioning into a vertical climb and loop. It was notable that the top point of the loop was just 850 m high, and the bottom point, 150 m from the ground. Then another climb into a "bell", previously done only with sports aircraft, overflight with a high angle of attack, a second overflight "on the knife", with a 90 degree roll, a steep banked turn and landing approach. The entire program took less than 4 minutes."

Incidentally, our pilots prepared two programs. The main one was for good weather, and included a number of advanced vertical flight maneuvers, while the reserve, with allowance for the typical, foul English weather, consisted of low-altitude aerobatics under the clouds. The flight committee approved both variants. We note that the first included the unique figure of the "bell", a tail slip.

A daily journal published at the exhibition, *FLIGHT SHOW DAILY*, ran an article entitled "Those Magnificent Migs" in its very first issue on 4 September. We quote: "Of course we have seen MiG-29s before, but they

remain a novelty... They are piloted by Anatoliy Kvochur, Roman Taskayev, and Yuriy Yermakov, civilian pilots of the great experimental design bureau named for its founders A. Mikoyan and M. Gurevich. Those famous men are long dead, and the bureau is now run by Rostislav Belyakov, an Academician and twice Hero of Soviet Labor. Take a bow, comrade Belyakov! The MiG-29 is the best combat aircraft now built in the Soviet Union."

The oldest English aviation journal *FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL* ran an article on the exhibition entitled "Glasnost on the Wing": "Five years ago, no one either in the West or in the Soviet Union dreamed that a Soviet fighter would be shown in a NATO country, let alone that it would become the star of a western show. None of us could even imagine that the chief designer and test pilots from the Mikoyan organization would so freely and in such detail discuss their affairs with an employee of a western aviation journal. But the MiG-29 is not simply an exhibition model; the Soviets proudly speak of its combat capabilities and angrily reject the current opinion alleging that its design does not surpass the standard for kettles and frying pans."

One of its outstanding features is weapons control. Possessing an infrared direction finder and a laser range finder, the pilot need only lay the mark on the target, and 4-6 rounds are enough to destroy it. And the tail slip is not simply an effective maneuver; in battle, as soon as a signal comes on indicating that the aircraft has been illuminated by enemy radar, the pilot shifts to a vertical climb, then slips downward on his tail. Before this the aircraft is immobile relative to the ground for seconds, and the echo signal from it is lost."

Not only journals talked of the aviation equipment. Pilots of different countries displayed their aircraft and exchanged opinions. For example, the English and Americans liked the cockpit of the MiG. A frequent question was, why don't our aircraft have their own names? They asked how the words "eagle" and "falcon" would sound in Russian, words appropriate to the MiG-29. Presently it is called the "Fulcrum" abroad—in NATO Soviet fighters are given code names beginning with "F" (for the English "fighter"). Well, clearly NATO is not mistaken.

And it was no accident that the English Minister of State for Defense Younger, President of the Society of British Aerospace Companies Yates, Secretary of the FRG Ministry for Economics and coordinator of the aviation industry Riedel, Jordan's King Hussein, the chiefs of staffs and air force generals of England, France, Italy, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Vice Presidents of the McDonnell Douglas and General Dynamics corporations, American astronauts Conrad and Stafford, and many others thoroughly inspected the "Fulcrum". Let us talk in more detail of the MiG-29.

On the eve of the exhibition, the General Designer of the OKB imeni A. Mikoyan, Rostislav Belyakov remarked: "We were asked to develop a high-performance air-to-air

fighter, a fighter to gain air superiority. By tradition, MiG aircraft should be reliable and simple for the pilots and ground personnel to operate. Of course there were difficulties, which every designer encounters in developing a new aircraft, for example the problem of maximum acceptable angles of attack of the aircraft, for which the most important thing is its maneuverability, as well as the question of configuration arising due to the concentration of various systems and equipments in a small volume. But we solved these problems."

On 6 October 1977, test pilot Aleksandr Fedotov took off in the first model of this aircraft. A new-generation combat aircraft, designed for actions in all weathers day or night, for dogfights and all-aspect missile battles at intermediate ranges, for intercept of strike and reconnaissance aircraft, the MiG incorporated many achievements of Soviet aviation science and technology and substantially differs from its predecessors.

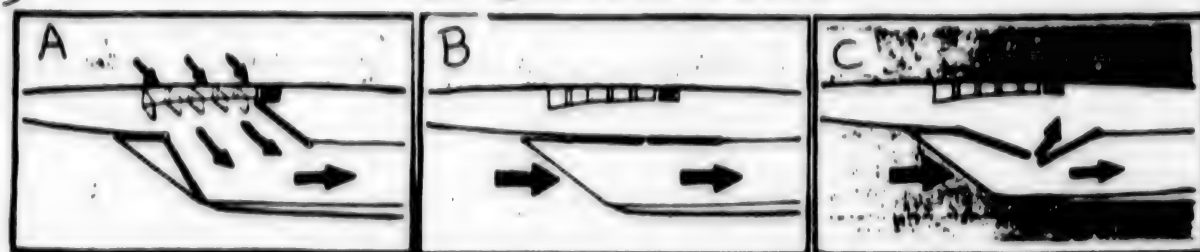
Specifications and Performance Characteristics of the MiG-29

Wingspan, m	11.36
Length, m	17.32 (17.42 for MiG-29UB),
Stabilizer span, m	7.78
Takeoff weight, kg, normal	15,000
Maximum takeoff weight, kg	18,000
Thrust of two engines, kg, afterburner	16,600
Maximum engine thrust	10,400
Thrust-to-weight ratio at takeoff, kg	more than 1.1
Maximum speed at ground level, km/hr	1,500
Maximum rate of climb at ground level, m/s	330
Service ceiling, m	17,000
Maximum established G force	9
Length of takeoff roll, m	240
Length of landing roll, m	600 (with brake chute)
Maximum range with suspended fuel tank, km	2,100

Its main feature is its integral aerodynamic layout. It has no fuselage. This layout ensures high load-bearing properties and a broad range of flight characteristics. A wing with high-efficiency aerodynamic profiles and spatial deformation, and leading edge and trailing edge flaps, is used on the fighter. Variable under-wing air intakes allow stable operation of the engines during flight at extremely low speeds, and at supersonic speeds.

The high thrust-to-weight ratio allows the MiG to execute a vertical climb with acceleration up to 9 Gs. Its maneuver qualities are provided by the efficient control system. At Farnborough many spoke of its lack of a remote electrical system, but in the words of Kvochur, the hydraulic system "allows the pilot to do anything he wishes." In addition, reserves for improvement have been built into the structure of the aircraft.

Operating scheme of MiG-29 air intake.



Key:

- A. During takeoff and landing at a ground airfield, the lower intakes are closed.
- B. During normal flight.
- C. During supersonic flight.

At Farnborough they gave high marks to our weapons control system, which consists of three aiming channels, connected by data and algorithmic interaction through the onboard computer. It includes a pulse-Doppler radar that can detect a target like a fighter at a distance of 100 km. The second channel is the infrared thermal direction finder with laser range finder, which precisely determines coordinates of targets, including maneuvering ones, and the first short burst from the cannon suffices for their destruction. There is also a third channel; a sighting device is mounted on the pilot's helmet. When the target is locked in its crosshairs (he need only turn his head), commands are automatically sent to two other systems and the air-to-air missiles. The MiG arsenal includes medium-range missiles with radar guidance that destroy the enemy at any aspect angle, close-range missiles with infrared homing heads that react to infrared radiation, a 30 mm cannon, and rockets and bombs for strikes against ground targets.

Possible malfunctions are detected by a built-in monitoring and warning system, which detects the problems and informs the pilot of them. Incidentally, there were no "incidents" with the MiG pair at Farnborough, although they worked hard.

Overall, in England our fighters demonstrated the level of Soviet science and technology. "From now on, I hope that glasnost and perestroika will also be manifested in our field", said the President of the Society of British Aerospace Companies Yates. "I believe cooperation in the aviation industry is a good method of strengthening ties between our peoples. I want to believe that 1988 will be the start of a new era!"

Soviet specialists are of the same opinion.

COPYRIGHT: "Tekhnika i molodezhi", 1989

Comparison of Third-Generation Fighters

18010453a Moscow *TEKHNICA I MOLODEZHI* in Russian No 2 1989 p 34-36

[Article by Engineer I. Izmaylov, entitled: "Third-Generation Fighters".]

[Text] Racing less than 300 m, the MiG-29 threw itself from the concrete and flew upward steeply, almost vertically. The English Harrier first hovered over the airfield, then like a refueling boom, turned precisely to the right and left and "backed away". An American fighter turned loops, sharply changing its trajectory of flight. Thus did the third-generation fighters demonstrate their capabilities at Farnborough.

The history of the first generation goes back to 1939, when the first jet fighters appeared, developed on the basis or in the image and likeness of propeller aircraft. With the exception of the German Me-163, they had a straight wing, a fuselage with oval cross section, a small tail fin, speed not exceeding 1000 km/hr, and were armed with large-caliber machine guns and 20-30 mm cannon.

In 1947 the Mig-15 and the American F-86 Sabre took off almost simultaneously, both with a swept wing, cigar-shaped fuselage, and high, inclined tail fin. The speed of sound was broken with similar but more-developed aircraft. Then there followed aircraft with triangular wings that could climb to almost 30 km. However at speeds equal to 1.5-2 times that of sound, the pilots were not able to get ready to fire, and it was no accident that in the 50s attempts were made to replace the cannon with guided missiles. But in the course of local wars of the time, it was found that it was a little early to retire the cannon, and that supersonic speed is by no means the most important thing for fighters, which often have to work two jobs—both "in its specialty", and as a comparatively slow-moving ground-attack aircraft, designed for hitting small ground targets. Overall, a combat aircraft was needed that possessed extremely contradictory properties: the enormous speed of a

record-breaking aircraft and the maneuverability of a competition biplane, with a ceiling of more than 25 km and the ability to sneak up on a target unobserved by radar crews, avoiding hills and diving into depressions.

Back in the 70s, the first experimental, later serial aircraft with variable wing geometry were rolled out on the airfields, for example the Soviet MiG-23 (see TM No 9 1984), the American F-111, the West European Tornado. At that time they also recalled the "canard" layout, with a small surface in front of the wing creating additional lift (the Swedish Viggen, the French Mirage-4000, the Israeli Kfir).

Many third-generation fighters create lift not only through the swept or triangular wing, with a high degree of mechanization, but also through the triangular-cross section fuselage (Tornado), sometimes with a complex aerodynamic shape, convex at the nose and tail sections and concave in the middle. Aircraft without fuselages were also designed (MiG-29).

Bevelled, self-adjusting air intakes were equally efficient in flying at low speed with high angles of attack, and at supersonic speeds.

Third-generation fighters are provisionally divided into two categories. The first includes the heavy (25 t) interceptors, also designed for gaining air superiority. They develop a speed of Mach 2.3-3, can quickly climb to more than 25 km, and are armed mainly with air-to-air missiles and equipped with long-distance radar.

Air-to-air fighters belong to the second category. They are lighter (takeoff weight of around 15 t) and smaller than the former, not so fast (no more than Mach 1.8-2), with a ceiling of roughly 18 km. They have high-speed cannon, built-in or suspended in a pod (those such as the American Vulcan with a rate of fire of 6 thousand rounds a minute), and exterior hardpoints, up to 8 tons of missiles and bombs. This is equal to the "payload" of the American four-engine 56-ton B-29 Superfortress bomber from the Second World War.

The majority of third-generation fighters are equipped with different types of computers. Thus one of them receives information from aircraft attitude, speed, and altitude sensors, and after processing sends commands to hydraulic devices, thus making it easier for the pilot to control the aircraft. For example, the remote electrical system first tested on the F-4 Phantom practically relieves the pilot of the need to monitor the aircraft, except for takeoff and landing, and in battle the computer on the American F-15 itself selects the most important of several targets and the weapons to destroy them, automatically begins to monitor them, and at the necessary moment, tells the pilot when to pull the triggers.

Much attention is paid to questions of safety and survivability of the combat equipment. To this end there is double redundancy of the controls, and the engines are arranged with a separation between, so that one can remain intact after rounds or missiles strike the aircraft. On some foreign fighters there are 4 main and 2 auxiliary computers; if the former do not reach the same opinion, then the latter add their "votes" to the majority. However the man always has the last word...

Such are the basic features of modern fighters, including the exhibits of "Farnborough-88". These included the French Dassault "Raffal", which had its maiden flight in 1986 and is now undergoing testing, and lays claim to the title of "Fighter of the year 2000". In the "canard" layout, with two engines and a triangular wing, extensive use was made of composite materials, fiber optics, and elements tested on its predecessors, the "Mirage-2000 and Mirage-4000".

Incidentally, the "Raffal" is similar to the "Mirage-2000"—a single-seater multirole aircraft, the design of which began in December 1957. Now it is in the armament of France (450 aircraft have been ordered), India, and Egypt. The Mirage-2000 is able to conduct dogfights, attack ground targets, and intercept bombers, climbing to 30 km in just 5 minutes after takeoff. It is equipped with two computer-controlled independent hydraulic systems (servo controls); the use of composites permitted a weight reduction of 15-20 percent. As in many foreign fighters, the information the pilot needs is projected on a head-up display on the cockpit canopy, and he has no need to glance at the instrument panel from time to time.

The English Hawker-Siddeley Harrier, the first model of which flew in August 1966, does not appear so effective. Its main difference is that a part of the exhaust stream of the engines can be directed downward, and then the fighter may take off or land vertically, like a helicopter. Of course, specialists have noted, because of the need to carry more fuel, which is consumed intensely in point takeoffs and landings, the combat load and range of action of English "Verticals" leave much to be desired.

In 1968 the West German company Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm, the British aircraft, and the Italian Fiat companies began design of the Tornado, which was to replace the American F-104 Starfighter that had gained the reputation as a "flying coffin" among pilots. The new aircraft, which went into serial production in 1980, was designed for combat at altitudes from several hundreds of meters to 24 km, reconnaissance, support of ground forces, and engagement of ships. We note that the Tornado was one of the first combat aircraft with a highly mechanized wing, the sweep of which could be changed in the bounds of 25-68 degrees using two independent hydraulic devices. It was equipped with two radars, radar and laser range finders, and a system allowing safe nap-of-the-earth flight. Not counting the two 27 mm Mauser guns, on its seven hardpoints the

West European fighter can carry air-to-air or air-to-ground missiles and aerial bombs, or special equipment, for example for reconnaissance fighters. The producing countries alone ordered 697 Tornados in interceptor and fighter-bomber versions.

Almost simultaneously with West European competitors, in February 1969 the American company McDonnell-Douglas began to develop the multirole F-15 Eagle fighter. By July 1972 it had already made its first flight. According to a statement by representatives of the company, this two-tail-fin aircraft with a fixed-geometry wing and a sweep angle of 45 degrees was partially made of titanium, and would incorporate "the last word in technology". Indeed, it is equipped with a computer that corrects pilot errors during flight in a non-automatic mode, and in addition instantly reacts to changes in the situation, for example, sudden gusts of wind, and orally announces changes in the angle of attack, a fuel shortage, engine fire, landing gear malfunctions, etc.

Here 90 percent of the electronics and 85 percent of the electrical systems are concentrated in the nose section, close to the cockpit, which is equipped with an ejection seat with which the pilot may exit the aircraft at altitudes from 0 to 25 kilometers, and at speeds from 0 to 1112 km/hr. The armament of the Eagle is determined by the combat mission, and half as much time is required to prepare for a sortie as for technicians servicing the Phantoms.

In ten years almost a thousand changes and improvements have been made in the design of the Eagle, and in addition to U.S. aviation, (749 aircraft at a cost of 17 million dollars each), it has also been procured by Japan, Saudi Arabia, and Israel.

In 1972, the General Dynamics company began development of the light multirole F-16 Fighter Falcon; in less than two years the prototype was ready, and at the end of 1976 the first serial aircraft were produced. Such high speed may be explained by the fact that the company used parts and assemblies that had already been produced and tested in other aircraft, and made extensive use of "space technology".

But the control system was fundamentally new; information on the aircraft attitude, its center of mass, and flight conditions is sent to its electronic memory. The computer monitors and if necessary issues commands to the controls, weapons, electrical supply, air brakes, engine air intakes, and landing gear hydraulics. The radar, which observes the situation in a 45 km zone, detects and selects targets and tracks them, reporting coordinates to the computer in order to select and prepare the cannon or missile in a timely manner.

The Americans recruited companies of Belgium, Holland, Norway, and Denmark to work on this aircraft, thus shifting some of the expenses to them, and ensuring

there were buyers for the Fighter Falcons, in which Egypt also expressed an interest. Plans are to produce a total of 3 thousand F-16s in various models.

In 1976 the U.S. Navy ordered a single-seat, carrier-based fighter, the F-18 Hornet, to replace the F-4 Phantom and the A-7 Corsair. The Northrop company began developing the central and tail sections of the all-metal fuselage, McDonnell Douglas all the rest. Two years later one of the first Hornets had already taken off and landed on the deck of the aircraft carrier America.

The structure of the carrier-based aircraft, which undergo heavy stresses in catapult takeoffs, was strengthened: 59% of it was aluminum alloys, 14% steel, 8.5% titanium, 8% composites, 10.5% materials hardened with fiber glass. The forward part of the frame, where the radar is located, is made of a dielectric material that allows its radiation to pass through, and toward the tail, where the two engines are located, along with the hook that catches on the cable of the deck landing device, the round cross-section fuselage transitions smoothly into an elliptical one.

In the hangar the ends of the trapezoidal wing fold up; the thickened joints near the fuselage increase lift and improve the transverse strength of the aircraft.

The control system generally is similar to that used on the F-16. In addition, the onboard computer that receives and processes information sends commands to the ailerons and elevators, and elements of wing mechanisms. Nine hardpoints are provided to accommodate the basic loads under the wing and fuselage.

Plans are to produce 1.5 thousand Hornets, including a dry-land variant, the F-18 L. The ground diagnostic equipment developed for it makes it possible to reduce the intervals between flights to 15 minutes. The air forces of Australia, Spain, and Canada have expressed the desire to procure aircraft of this type.

In the opinion of foreign military specialists, third-generation fighters developed in the late 60s and early 70s will remain in armaments for at least two decades. And then they will be replaced (the exhibits of "Farnborough-88" are no exception) by fourth-generation aircraft, which are all already being developed in the quiet of the design bureaus.

Basic specifications and performance characteristics of certain present-day foreign fighters

The American multirole fighter, the F-16 Fighter Falcon. Takeoff weight, 11.4 t (normal), 17 t (maximal), thrust-to-weight ratio, 1.1, maximum speed, 2,120 km/hr, service ceiling, 17.3 km, takeoff roll 450 m, landing roll, 750 m, maximum G force, 9, armament: two 20 mm cannon (or one six-barrel 20 mm Vulcan), 8 rockets, bombs. The basic load is determined from the combat mission.

American carrier-based aircraft F-18 Hornet. Takeoff weight, 16.7 t (normal), 22.3 t (maximal), thrust-to-weight ratio, 2, maximal speed, 1,900 km/hr, service ceiling, 15.2 km, takeoff roll, 427 m, landing roll 850 m, armament: Vulcan gun, 4 air-to-air missiles, bombs, air-to-ground missiles with a total mass of 8 tons.

The French multirole fighter Mirage-2000. Takeoff weight, 10.9 t (normal), 17 t (maximal), thrust-to-weight ratio, 0.9, maximum speed 2,340 km/hr, service ceiling, 18 km, takeoff roll, 560 m, range 1,850 km, armament: two 30 mm Defa guns, Matra-550 (range 10 km) or Super-530 (range 35 km) air-to-air missiles, 12-18 bombs weighing 250 km each.

The English VTOL Harrier fighter (naval variant Sea Harrier). Takeoff weight 8.6 t (normal), 11.3 t (maximal), maximal speed 1,180 km/hr, service ceiling, 15.3 km, range, 740 km, armament: two 30 mm cannon, missiles, 2.2 t of bombs.

West European multirole fighter Tornado. Takeoff weight 14.5 t (normal), 27.9 t (maximal), maximum speed, 1,480 km/hr, service ceiling, 21.3 km, takeoff roll 269 m, landing roll 297 m, range 1,853 km, maximum G force 7, armament: two 27 mm Mauser cannon, air-to-air missiles, 8.1 t of bombs.

COPYRIGHT: "Tekhnika i molodezhi", 1989

PVO Training Weak Against Jamming, Cruise Missiles

18010671 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
16 May 89 First Edition p 2

[Article by Colonel B. Vaganov: "Where Do We Take the Squadron?"]

[Text] The Article "Born in Torment" (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 4 April 1989) discusses methods for raising qualitative parameters in PVO [Air Defense] Forces combat training. I am in solidarity with the article's author in that establishment of PVO large formation training centers (UTTs) must be the priority thrust. They have great possibilities. Thus, the center operating in the Moscow PVO District permits verification of PVO subunit, unit, and large unit capabilities in carrying out combat missions directly at permanent deployment locations. Hundreds of specialists have improved their skills here during the last two years.

But, undoubtedly, the District's UTTs assets would be greater if the opinions of its creators would be taken into account by higher headquarters. I accentuate attention on this thought not only because we have not been met

halfway for some reason. Now a decision has been made on establishing similar training centers at other PVO large formations and it is important not to repeat mistakes.

During construction of the training facility, we took into account that crews must be ready to conduct combat operations during jamming. Now all of the enemy's tactical and strategic aviation aircraft are equipped with radio electronic combat assets which increase aviation's combat capabilities for penetrating a PVO system. They created a mobile ground system for generating jamming against radar stations. Equipment for a second system is being completed. We submitted a proposal for including them in the UTTs TOE [table of equipment]. Nothing doing. The problem has not yet been resolved.

Or let us take this issue. Training on real aircraft is necessary for preparing combat crews. This requires not only flights of aircraft but along definite routes, at definite altitudes, and with definite density, using maneuvering and jamming, just like it will be in modern combat. PVO large unit and large formation commanders are not capable of solving this. What can we undertake here? In my view, there is an urgent need to include aviation subunits in the TOE. Then leaders of training would be able to model various air situations without any special difficulties.

The requirement for an aviation subunit is caused by the following. The massive introduction of strategic cruise missiles into the inventories of NATO countries correspondingly complicates PVO Forces training for combating these new types of air attack weapons. We can get similar experience on training ranges, but the terrain is quite different from the terrain where the troops will have to carry out their combat mission. Yes, and they do not send [surface-to-air] missileers there very often. And that is why we also need to have unmanned aircraft—strategic cruise missile look-alikes—to successfully train combat crews on these types of targets at permanent deployment locations. But we can only dream about this.

There are also barriers on the path of equipping UTTs with modern training simulators. This is a problem which we have been struggling with in the forces for dozen of years. Here is an example. Thus, a simulator built at one of the anti-aircraft missile complexes does not permit quality combat crew training. Innovators at the unit where officer V. Mikheyev serves, in filling the gap, assembled a device allowing creation of complex air situations and which conducts highly effective training and objectively evaluate the work of each crew member. It would seem that a solution has been found. Unfortunately, our industry has not hurried to take on the production of such an important training asset. And only because manufacturing simulators is unprofitable. And is it really profitable to be occupied with equipment which is beginning to operate on alert duty? PVO combat training officers need to be a little more persistent here. Who, besides them, will try to get this business moving. Then maybe the UTTS can take on a number of the range's functions as a result of which quite a lot of state funds will be saved.

Computer Use in Naval Combat Training Discussed

18010529 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
21 Mar 89 p 1

[Article by Captain 3rd Rank A. Alekseyev: "The Computer Votes 'For'"]

[Text] Leningrad Naval Base—When discussing qualitative parameters of combat training, the factors involved in improving such training include, among others, well developed training facilities.

Unfortunately, our training detachment has yet to rid itself of justified complaints about the quality of its graduates' training. Analysis shows that the reason lies precisely in inadequate training facilities.

How can this situation be overcome? Captain 2nd Rank V. Zhuralev, who was recently named commanding officer of the detachment, asked himself this question. After carefully analyzing the organization of the training process and the state of training facilities, he presented an original idea, in our view, to the commissioned officers and senior warrant officers for discussion: That the broadest possible use be made of computer equipment to improve the quality of the professional proficiency of personnel. But since obtaining the costly equipment quickly was hardly realistic, corresponding computer programs would have to substitute for it. Especially since the facilities for such a reorganization existed: The series of training courses offered in the computer equipment at the disposal of the detachment of the naval technicians school.

Captain 3rd Rank I. Khartsy, director of the series of training courses, and the other commissioned officers and senior warrant officers supported the commanding officer's idea. In the specialists' view, the available facilities were quite sufficient for putting the idea into effect. They included dialogue display computer complexes, personal computers, a television studio, and other modern technical equipment. These facilities can be used to create the widest variety of problem situations and to play management games, something that will undoubtedly improve the quality of the sailors' specialized training and make it possible to efficiently monitor the progress of personnel in mastering the training material.

And so a way out of the difficult situation confronting the training detachment was found. Reorganization of the training process for the ship specialists has begun. True, it is not proceeding as energetically as one would like. Holdups have been due chiefly to a shortage of certain models of computer equipment whose delivery, as before, is being dragged out. In the view of Captain 3rd Rank I. Khartsy, were the computer training courses to have everything they need, it would be possible to organize the vocational selection of people best suited for various specialties and to model the operation

of any device or system that the detachment's graduates might have to service aboard fighting ships. In order to use computers to improve the day-to-day functioning of the unit's administrative apparatus, it is advisable to have specialized programs. In the long run, the officer emphasized, it is quite realistic that our series of computer training courses could become the basis for the establishment of a common computer center that, judging from preliminary requirements, would serve all the local garrison's units.

Implementing the plan requires help from competent specialists of the naval base's staff and rear services and from specialists in naval combat training, on whom both supplying the detachment with the equipment it lacks and financing the equipment's installation and setup depend.

To assure themselves that introducing these innovations is the right thing to do, the programmers decided to consult a computer. A program that they put in it reflected the positive aspects of reorganizing the training process and the difficulties that will inevitably arise in the course of implementing the plan. After "deliberating" for a brief period, the computer supported the enthusiasts.

Will their superiors support them?

Wider Role for Officers' Assemblies Urged

81010554 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
7 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

Article by Capt 1st Rank (retired) N. Remizov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, under the rubric "The Officers' Assembly: What Should It Be Like?": "A Tuning Fork of Honor"]

[Text] "An officers' assembly? That is nothing new. We actually always had one on the cruiser," commented Capt 2nd Rank (reserve) S. Nekrasov, who performed seagoing duty at approximately the same time as I. "All of the serious issues pertaining to the service and life were always discussed in the wardroom, most frequently in the dining room after the noon or evening mess. The commander or the executor officer would frequently call a special assembly. Wasn't it the same with you?"

"Just about the same," I replied, "but this was impromptu discussion which would arise in the wardroom dining area when some individuals just happened to linger to play a little chess or tinkle the keys of the piano. It was not exactly an officer's assembly, if only because only part of the officers happened to stay behind. There was the element of an assembly in those discussions, of course. When the cruiser commander, who ordinarily messed in his cabin, descended to us in the wardroom after having taken his meal or when he joined the executive officer's table to mess with all the rest, for example. The officers ordinarily saw this as some sort of sign, and a larger group than usual would

remain in the dining area. They knew the commander had something to say, wanted confidentially to discuss some problem which he could sense and was already concerned about."

This is how the commander would feel out our thoughts about a transfer to another fleet, for example. It would soon be followed by a "legal" discussion, and the people would get used to the idea.

But what about the meetings ordinarily convened at the order "All officers in the wardroom"? These conferences, ordinarily service-related, rarely contained any democratic elements. Perhaps when the discussion was about taking care of the wardroom and the selection of its council and the person to be in charge for the forthcoming period. These were most frequently "one-way" conferences. The only thing heard were instructions from the commander or the executive officer.

Then there was the officer's comradely court of honor, in which a group of the best officers, who enjoyed the commander's confidence, and would "add to" the situation of those for whom the commander's orders were no longer effective, but who frequently punished also for isolated slips of a clearly defined unethical hue. Lt D. once squandered state money. I do not remember what the court gave him for that, but he was forced to leave the ship and even, as I recall, the fleet by his own emotional torment. Merely a "stern reprimand" from the court of honor had considerable consequences—a "major" delay in promotion to the next military rank, for example. A direct resolution calling for a demotion (which was ordinarily carried out) was more terrible and more powerful than the commander's loudest scoldings.

I recall an incident in which the officers had already boarded a cutter to travel to Leningrad to visit their families (this happened in Kronstadt, where our newly built ship was temporarily anchored). We suddenly heard the order from the quarter-deck: Lieutenants, return to ship. Lt N. Baturin either did not hear (the way he explained it later) or pretended not to hear the order. The cruiser commander was furious, and "his" measures seemed slight to him. "To be judged by a court of honor and reduced in rank," he ordered. Baturin became a junior lieutenant, but since he was talented and industrious he later caught up with his comrades. Although the court of honor was a sort of "element" of the officer's assembly, it was more an additional punitive tool in the hands of the commander and executed his instructions.

"Just who should lead the officer's assembly?" I then asked Sergey Dmitriyevich Nekrasov.

"In my opinion, no one but the commander," my colleague answered. "He is the master of the ship and cannot be a rank and file member of the assembly or of some assembly presidium."

Despite my great respect for my colleague, recalling my years of service on a ship, I could not agree. I cannot precisely describe what I would consider to be the ideal assembly, but I believe that it should be primarily an instrument of officers' democracy, an expression of the officers' opinions on fundamental issues of the service, daily life and behavior from the standpoint of the officer's honor and dignity, and particularly the officer's moral code. While not going against regulations or our morals, of course. Naturally, special consideration can and must be given to the commander's position. But certainly the assembly should be recognized as having the right to express its firm position on those issues which the commander sometimes decides without the officers' opinions, only formally not conflicting with military regulations. I am not talking about direct orders, of course, which are not to be criticized, but about those moments when the commander's line demonstrates its validity precisely from the standpoint of the officers' general concept of ethics, dignity and honor.

I recall the following incident. Lt V. Shkurenkov, in charge of "secrets" on the ship, once informed me that I was included in an order to audit his section and that we would begin the audit that evening, "whenever I said." We commission members, each for his own reasons, asked the lieutenant not to procrastinate with the matter. The latter, a bachelor who loved the shore, put off the work evening after evening. It made even more sense to begin the audit when we went to sea for a week, but Lt Shkurenkov preferred to spend his evenings reading. When we returned to base, however, in the name of the ship's commander, to whom his position made him close, he ordered us not to go ashore until the audit had been completed.

Just before the cruise my wife and son had joined me and I had barely had time to find temporary quarters for them before departing. My family would have to leave at any time, and I had not had any time to spend with them. The deputy commander for political affairs "washed his hands" of the matter, and I went to explain the situation to the cruiser commander.

"You have worked your way up to senior lieutenant, but you still do not understand the service," the commander replied, seemingly good-naturedly. "Orders are not to be questioned, you know."

"I am not questioning the order, but I don't know of any regulations which specify callousness," the reply burst out.

"And for rudeness to a superior, I order..." and the commander "decreed" that I was to spend 5 days on the ship confined to quarters.

Not all of my comrades agreed with the commander's decision: severe punishment for nothing. There was nothing they could do, however. Even the party bureau secretary, actually a good person, merely shrugged his

shoulders and said that he could do nothing, that they did not pay much attention to him. Even the executive officer was beside himself—mostly out of pride, perhaps: the commander had ignored his stand....

But that is in the past. Our commander (now deceased) had some important virtues as well as some perceptible character defects. Those were the harsh "Zhukov" times, and people did not always properly reckon with the political workers. I have not harbored my anger at the commander, and I recall him kindly together with everyone else at the assemblies of cruiser veterans.

In principle, however, I believe that the officer's assembly, had it been a full-fledged one, would have and should have stated its opinion on such matters, in which, although apparently in perfect accordance with regulations, a penalty is at odds with respect for the dignity of an officer and a human being.

I feel that the officers' assembly should incorporate also the functions of a court of honor. It should be one of the working agencies of the assembly and decide issues as independently as possible from the commander's fixed directives, sometimes overly biased.

I do not believe that an officers' assembly would have rendered such a severe penalty as a demotion for Lt Baturin, an industrious officer who loves the service, merely for the fact that he spent one evening with his family. The order not to go ashore "just for the lieutenants" was actually offensive and discriminatory.

Incidentally, let me add this. The party secretary I mentioned did not support me, as I said, but not out of indifference. He was thinking about the bitter experience of his predecessor, recently removed. The former party bureau secretary had sometimes attempted to disagree with the commander, to have his own opinion and establish "consultative" relations with the latter. The commander was accustomed to giving advice only in the form of orders, however, and frequently did not want to listen to the secretary's opinion. In general, he treated the secretary the way it was once usual for a hardened veteran to treat a senior lieutenant.

I repeat that the commander had important merits and was an excellent seaman. He was entirely devoted to the service and was extremely honorable personally, but one could not ignore other feathers. He was sometimes abrupt, sometimes, depending upon his mood, not kind, and he could not tolerate "other ways of thinking." Just when and where has this ever conformed to the interests of the cause?

The "deposed" secretary, an extremely vain individual, took the bait. He began to put together a "bloc of like-minded people" against the commander. Only two people signed the letter to the authorities along with the secretary, however. A commission from Moscow pointed out certain defects to the commander. It did not support

the secretary in general, however, but accused him of intrigue and of undermining the sole-command principle. The secretary was forced to leave, and the new one had to be more loyal and silent. Had there been an officers' assembly on the cruiser, however, I believe that it could have spoken out on the conflict between the senior and the junior purely informally, from the position of the traditional concepts of mutual respect and tact in the officer family. It could have corrected also the secretary, and the commander would probably have hesitated to inappropriately brandish the sole-command bugbear.

I have brought up matters of the distant past, you say. We need to proceed from the problems of today. Today's problems have ancient roots, though. And how frequently we make hasty, poorly considered decisions. The past teaches us to be thoughtful and thorough, particularly when it comes to respect for the individual and his honor. In my opinion, the officers' assembly should be a sort of tuning fork of the officer's honor and consider all service problems and interrelations by taking into full account the morality factor, which is the healthy foundation of democracy.

More Details on 'KOMSOMOLETS' Disaster
18010587 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 May 89 Second Edition p 4

[Article by N. Cherkashin, Northern Fleet: "At the Empty Wharf"]

[Text]

The Powder Magazine

Submariners never brag about the dangers of their duty. It is self-evident. The mass media preferred to talk about how comfortable the explorers of the deep feel in the "relaxation zones" with canaries, artificial grass, and pools.

The first time he ever lowered himself into a submarine, Aleksandr Fadeyev pointed out: "It is logical to carry a watch in your pocket, but it is unnatural to live inside clockworks." To approach the truth, one needs to add—there are time bombs inside the clockworks.

This is by no means a hyperbole. A modern nuclear submarine is a complex of monstrous energies—electrical, nuclear, steam, and chemical, all locked inside the armor plating of the pressure hull. No one would think to locate a powder magazine in a fuel dump. But submarines are arranged with precisely that degree of a fire and explosive hazard where there is oxygen—in lethal vicinity of oil, electrical power panels in the vicinity of salt water, and regeneration in the vicinity of solar oil. And this is not due to thoughtlessness but due to the cruel necessity to sail under water at great depths, quickly and undetected.

In such a life threatening area submerged in a life threatening environment, submariners are forced to live like soldiers live on the front lines. Even if the submarine is anchored at the jetty, it is still a "heightened danger zone."

Our statewide problem—the problem of quality—multiplies this danger. All-penetrating like radiation, its pressure hull is alas not a barrier.

I am repeating my long-held thought: submariners do not go on bayonet charges and never look the enemy in the eye. But they are ready at any moment to engage in hand-to-hand combat with a machine furious from a wound, in blind fury with a ruthless subassembly, with a spurting stream of boiling oil, blistering steam, or a fire... This enemy is not taken prisoner. It knows neither advantage nor mercy. Victory will not stop it. It does not have an instinct for self-preservation. It is spiritless, mindless, and ready to be killed along with its victim...

Here, on the pier, I asked the captain of the nuclear submarine we were standing next to to show me the stern compartment, arranged approximately the same as the dead boat... Young Gennadiy Baryshkov, a comrade of Komsomolets Captain Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Vanin who was taken by the sea, suggested we go down the steep steel well. The path below ran through the voluminous capsule of the surfacing rescue chamber (VSK). I threaded my way behind the commander in a thicket of steel roots, diving into the burrows of inter-compartmental people passages, locked walkways, and hatches. In this steel womb, a man, pushed, bent, and twisted, looks like a worm trapped within a gigantic mechanical organism.

Any fire inspector, of those who nag about housing regulations, would go out of his mind upon seeing how we have stuffed the compartments with equipment which are fire hazards, in what close quarters and in what discomfort submariners must extinguish their "volume fires."

[Passage omitted]

I can confirm that for our country the loss of this boat is equal to the loss of the U.S.'s multiple use spacecraft Challenger. The Komsomolets was the first of its type of hydro-space orbital stations. It carried torpedoes since confrontation at sea remains a reality. But those scientific, technical, and oceanographic problems with which scientists tasked the crew (each cruise yielded unique information) approached the era of advanced and rapid underwater passenger navigation. Just as many commercial passenger aircraft grew out of military aircraft, so could the Komsomolets have become the forerunner of a new type of sea transport. And it will. For no type of catastrophe can stop mankind's progress in the sky, in the ocean, or in space. But anyway, it seems to me that we have still not completely acknowledged what kind of boat and what sort of people we lost...

[Passage omitted]

An Underwater Fire

The on-watch technician was the first to note the trouble as he is supposed to. On that morning, he was Captain Third Rank Vyacheslav Yudin, commander of the survivability division. According to the daily routine, at 11:00 an ascent was announced for the first combat shift and the third got ready for lunch. The watch officer, Captain-Lieutenant Aleksandr Berezhov (aide to the commander) had just received reports from the compartments. A guttural Caucasian-accented voice reported from the stern: "The seventh compartment has been inspected. Insulation resistance and the gaseous composition of the air is normal. No observations."

Those were the last words of Senior Seaman Nadari Bukhnikashvili. In all probability, he died as soon as the volume fire broke out. He did not even manage to pull the "larch" lever—the inter-compartmental communications microphone.

He stood watch alone in the uninhabited seventh compartment. Only He alone saw how it broke out and how... Nadari Otariyevich Bukhnikashvili, section commander, specialist first class, and member of the Komsomol committee. A black-mustachioed lad from Abkhaziya...

11:03. A signal rang out at the watch technician's panel: "The temperature in compartment seven is over 70 degrees." Yudin immediately reported to the commander.

Emergency alarm!

The rapid scream of the klaxon woke up all who were still sleeping. They only sound bells and klaxons during extreme situations: let us say that training drills are announced only by voice so as not to violate the sound camouflage of always undetected sailing.

Captain First Rank Boris Kolyada, deputy division commander, senior on board:

"I jumped up out of my cot, pulled up my pants, and rushed to the central post. I put on my coat on the run."

Captain First Rank Vanin, captain of the boat, and Engineering Officer Captain Second Rank Babenko were already at the GKP (Main Command Post). Babenko was feverishly calling the emergency compartment: "Seventh, seventh..." Seventh did not answer.

"Are people in there?"

"Senior Seaman Bukhnikashvili. He is not making contact."

"Commander, Let us turn on the LOKh [Ship Compartment Chemical Fire Suppression System] in the seventh compartment!..."

Vanin delayed for several seconds, hoping that Bukhnikashvili would yet respond. He did not want to believe that Nadari was already dead. The commander had known, since the time he was a lieutenant, that to inject freon into a compartment which contains people is the same as letting gas into a mobile gas chamber—certain death. Bukhnikashvili was not answering. He could no longer delay.

"Turn on the LOKh in the seventh compartment," ordered Vanin and he bit his lip.

From that second, they could consider the sailor as no longer being alive. We all hoped that he would be the only death...

A mnemonic sign lit up on the signal panel: "LOKh turned on in 7th Compartment." Warrant Officer Vladimir Kolotilin, remote control group technician, turned on the ship compartment chemical fire suppression system from the contiguous sixth compartment. Yes, the toxic gaseous mixture can extinguish a fire, covering the source with a thick "cap." And this time, maybe, we would have gotten by if an electrical arc had not burned through the high pressure air duct through which the main ballast tanks are blown. The compartment was immediately transformed into a blast furnace.

A 1,000 degree hell raged in the stern which compressed an even more fierce flame, and the "Temperature Greater than 70 Degrees" sign lit up on the indicator board at the central post. There were no other instruments on the control panel which could have shown how high the heat and pressure rose in the compartment. Soon, even without them, it became clear that this was an unusual fire... Kolotilin reported alarming news from the sixth compartment!

"I see smoke seepage..."

A jet of flame lashed into the sixth compartment in several seconds.

"Central!" roared Kolotilin's voice from the loudspeaker, "Ejection of hydraulics from under the right turbine generator. It is spurting like a flame thrower... It is difficult to breathe... Permission to putting on the IP [self-contained breathing protective mask]!"

Even if he had succeeded in pulling on the IP—a self-contained breathing protective mask, the uncomplicated device could have only saved him from smoke but not from fire. The sixth compartment was also transformed into a blazing inferno...

They immediately stopped the right turbine generator. The left [turbine generator] was now the only one. All of a sudden the automatic reactor protection system activated. The submarine lost speed. To lose speed at great depth is a lethal trick: the hydrodynamic surfacing force disappears, there are several seconds of inertia, and descent into the bottomless depths. In these critical moments fate, bad enough that it is blind, went wild. From the fifth compartment, they managed to yell:

"Fire..."

From the fourth compartment, they reported:

"The first loop's circulatory pump station is sparking ..."

Inter-compartmental communications were treacherously interrupted, the telephone was also disconnected... Instruments on the control panels "broke down" one after the other. The vertical rudder became jammed.

This was a mechanical mutiny. In the language of technology, an avalanche-type of accumulation in an emergency situation. There was a kilometer of depth under the keel. There was a 150 meter thickness over the conning tower hatch. And there were fires in the compartments. And no forward motion. And no communications... What is the use of yelling into the microphone: "Fifth compartment! Turn on the LOKh in the sixth compartment," when it is time to put freon into the fifth from the fourth. But there are people in there...

The fates of the 67 people remaining alive were decided during these moments. Five men determined their fates at the central post: Captain's First Rank Kolyada and Vanin, engineering officers Babenko and Yudin, and there was still the boatswain—Senior Warrant Officer Vladimir Tkach whose hands held the "pilot's" helm. Of these five who accomplished an engineering feat unseen in the world and who forced the agonized nuclear submarine to surface, only one remained alive—Kolyada. Only he alone saw and knows how quickly and flawlessly the GKP's whole crew acted, how the technicians flipped the switches and keys with lightning speed, shutting off some systems and turning on spare [systems]. They understood each other without words and with half glances. Their fingers jumped like in the devilish passages of Paganini, trapping fractions of seconds.

Still not knowing, if the boat would sink or surface, the "reactor boss" and Commander of the Remote Control Group, Captain-Lieutenant Igor Orlov began to stop the awesome heart of the nuclear sub. He lowered the shim rods completely and extinguished the heat of the "nuclear kettle." Luckily, the pumps which provided "cold" to the core still functioned properly. Chernobyl was not repeated.

From the depth of 157 meters at which the submarine lost forward motion, the submarine began to surface anyway. Warrant Officer Vladimir Kadantsev, senior assigned crewman of the bilge team, managed to blow out the main ballast tanks with high air pressure.

Having noticed that the indicator board was blinking "surfacing," watch officer Berezgov rushed into the acoustics operators room. He had to determine the situation on the surface so as not to surface under the keel of some other ship. All the more so since the nuclear sub was surfacing in an un-guided state—in spirals, due to the jammed rudder.

The yellow passive sonar "tadpole" etched a circle on the screen, breaking it in one and the same place—on the side where fishing boats were making noise. It was a long way to them.

At 11:14, the periscope was raised. Kadantsev, having stood at the ready at the upper conning tower hatch, heard the splash of water running off the conning tower. We have surfaced!

The commander scanned the horizon—a gray morning, swells, not one point of land in the sea's boundlessness.

Captain-Lieutenant Berezgov:

"We surfaced without forward motion and with rigged out bow depth planes. A fresh breeze chilled me right through my light jacket. I looked at the stern and sighed. The thick rubber covering was falling away from the hull, just like a stocking. A fire was still raging in the stern...:

In the Poisonous Smoke

From the Watch Log: "11:27. A fire extinguisher was brought to the central post. A source of open fire appeared on the boat movement control panel. Contamination and deterioration of visibility at the central post."

Captain First Rank Talant Burkulakov, head of the division's political section, was the first to notice the smoke.

"Look, it is smoking there," he yelled, having precisely determined the source. The electrical units began to go out. Flames shot out of one socket. They poured a fire extinguishing agent on the source of the fire. They extinguished the control panel fire but the smoke, which attacked the lungs, impaired functioning of the central post.

"Unnecessary personnel, go to the upper deck!" ordered the captain.

All of those who were not busy with the struggle for survival, the sonar and acoustics specialists, navigators, computer operators, and radiation monitors climbed onto the bridge. The remaining personnel, the control

panel operators, put on ShDA—automatic breathing hose system masks which are fed from the boat's compressed air main. Flexible hoses permitted them to move about to a radius of approximately 10 paces, they meticulously provided air, but ...

Carbon monoxide, as we all know, is insidious in that it cannot be perceived either by color or odor. It did not come to anyone's attention that they were breathing poisonous air in the rescue masks. Only the boat's doctor, Senior Medical Service Lieutenant L. Zayets began to sense something was wrong and experienced a hardly perceptible sweet taste in his mouth. He tore off his mask and sent Warrant Officer Sergey Chernikov (deceased) to determine the condition of the air.

"The concentration of carbon monoxide is lethal...," reported the stunned chemist.

The heightened pressure in the burning seventh compartment forced carbon monoxide into the ShDA system which was also passed into the emergency compartments. Propeller Instructor Sergey Golovchenko (deceased), Radiation Monitor Sergey Krasnov (deceased), and Torpedoman Aleksey Grundul (deceased) breathed in more poisonous gas than the others.

"11:58. All who have communications capability, contact the TsP (This command was transmitted by the captain from the Central Post—N.Ch.). There are no communications with the fourth compartment, there are approximately nine personnel there."

Now the most urgent matter was saving these nine people. What was their status? Are they alive? Lead them out or carry them out? And just what is going on in those smoke-filled and probably still burning compartments?

Not only those on the front lines perform reconnaissance missions... Captain Third Rank Vyacheslav Yudin (died afterwards) and Engineer-Sonar and Acoustics Officer Anatoliy Tretyakov (alive) were called on to go into the emergency compartment with the scouts. Having pulled the self-contained breathing protective masks on, they crawled into the smoky opening of the inter-compartmental hatch. The flashlight beams were absorbed by the thick swirling smoke. They practically groped their way into the compartment, as if into a mine field. Blistering steam, flames, or electrical arcs could spew forth at any second and from any angle... They found two men alive with masks on in the hermetically-sealed screened-off area over the reactor. The operating period of the regenerating cartridges had already expired and the scouts arrived just in time. They carried the reactor operators from the dark debris of the compartment. They were Remote Control Group (GDU) Engineer Lieutenant Andrey Makhota (alive) and Warrant Officer Mikhail Valyavin.

They ventilated the fourth compartment and prepared to unseal the fifth. Yudin was the first to crawl in there followed by volunteers from the rescue party. Things were a bit worse there. Two hours ago, flames had suddenly broken out along the compartment deck at a height of one meter. Clothes caught on fire. The sailors extinguished each other, leaning against the bulkheads, and fought the flames with sleeves, trouser-legs, and forearms... When they were carried out, skin hung from their burned hands like rags. Captain-Lieutenant Nikolay Volkov, commander of the electrical equipment group, had his mask melted onto his face. He was saved because he laid down on the deck, held his nose, and breathed through his exposed lips (alas, several hours later, Volkov would die at sea). Group Remote Control Engineer Lieutenant Aleksandr Shostak (drowned) helmsignaler seaman Vitaliy Tkachev (lost at sea), Bilge Machinist Seaman Yuriy Kozlov (alive), Chief of the Electrical Equipment Group Warrant Officer Sergey Zamogilnyy (died in the water) suffered severe burns. They were slowly brought topside to the bridge where Doctor Zayets had set up a makeshift infirmary with Burkulakov's help.

But there were still two men remaining in the fifth compartment: Turbine Technician Warrant Officer Sergey Vondar and his subordinate seaman Vladimir Kulapin. They were connected to the automatic breathing hose system and, having breathed carbon monoxide gas, had lost consciousness. Commander of the Turbine Group Captain-Lieutenant Sergey Dvorov (alive) and Warrant Officer Valyavin (drowned afterwards, his body has not been found) dragged them out of there. The two lifeless bodies were carried through the equipment labyrinth and carefully raised up through the tower of the surfacing rescue chamber.

Ship Doctor L. Zayets:

"We immediately attempted to save these two since they were the most seriously injured. Kulapin was not breathing, he had no pulse, and his pupils were dilated. Bondar had these same symptoms of clinical death. I performed indirect heart massage and Berezgov performed mouth-to-mouth respiration on the sailor. Burkulakov put adrenalin into a syringe. I took the long needle and injected it into his heart. Alas...

"I went down to the Central Post and reported to the captain that there were two corpses on board.

"Vanin entered them into the watch log and lowered the flag.

"These were the first two victims we saw with our own eyes. But other patients were waiting for me. I climbed up onto the bridge, having taken my bag with anesthesia from sick-bay. Burns were widespread and I surmised what intense pain Volkov or Zamogilnyy were experiencing, whose skin was peeling from their hands and forearms. But both of them insisted that they could get

along without injections and asked me to save the medicine which unknown numbers would need. I will never forget their courage!.."

At the same time, the rescue party—Yudin and helmsignaler Senior Seaman Igor Apanasevich (lost at sea) attempted to unseal the next to the last sixth compartment. They had hardly opened the sluice valve when a stream of black gas struck from there. The fire was raging there as before...

Watch officer Berezgov:

"Below, they were asking: 'Can you see any aircraft?' I scanned the horizon—an aircraft was flying 160 degrees off the port side.

I thought it was an Orion. But when it flew over the conning tower, I saw a star on the fuselage. One of ours.

"The fishing boats are coming towards you. Estimated time of arrival—18:00," reported the pilots.

Catastrophe

Now when it became clear that help was near, the spirits of many lifted a bit. The compartments were sealed and the sixth was filled with freon. A large portion of the crew was sent topside to catch their breath away from the smoke. The enormous black cloud which had spilled from the boat was not too bad now. It seemed that the worst was over. In those minutes, no one thought to ask a Norwegian helicopter for help, and even the thought that they may suddenly find themselves in the icy water appeared to be preposterous. Everyone knew that their submarine's pressure hull was the most durable in the world as the designers and shipbuilders believed. They all knew that nowhere and never had "burned out" submarines sunk in a matter of hours.

This is why the submariners went out on deck without their wet suits which remained in the smoke-filled compartments. They went out to go on board a floating fish factory, not to jump into the deadly icy water. To accuse them of short-sightedness is the same as reproaching inhabitants of multi-story buildings in Armenia's destroyed cities.

The events which occurred later, in their suddenness and rapidity, remind one of an earthquake. The submarine's hull shuddered from internal blows. This burst, as is now being suggested, the soldered tanks with regeneration—oxygen separating plates and substances, which are capable of burning even in water. Somehow or other water poured into both stern compartments. The flooding was rapid and the stern rapidly became weighted down. They all had only minutes left. The captain rushed below to hurry those few who were completing their duties in the "headquarters" compartment.

The last to see him alive was Warrant Officer Viktor Slyusarenko, a technician in the electronic navigation complex:

"When he yelled, 'All hands on deck,' he took two life vests and hurried to the central post. I ran into the captain: 'Are you the last one?' he asked. 'I seem to be.' But down below in the central post's bilge, Captain Third Rank Anatoliy Ispenkov, commander of the electrical equipment division was working on the diesel generator..."

I will interrupt the warrant officer's story.

Just as the captain is the last to leave his ship, the engineer is the last to leave the below decks area. More often than not he does not get out and, until the last seconds as it was on the Novorossiysk and on the Nakhimov, he provides light to those escaping from the multi-layered equipment labyrinths. Thus, Anatoliy Ispenkov died trading his life for light, without any metaphors. His colleague Vyacheslav Yudin, commander of the survivability division, also died in the same manner, having traded his life for survival of the surfacing rescue chamber. Captain First Rank Yevgeniy Vanin died with them, carrying out his captain's duties until the end.

Lesson for Tomorrow

Much has been written about how the submariners were saved. But, the question which troubles many people is—could we have saved everyone who ended up in the water? Actually, most of the sailors died not in the compartments, but in the waves. Did we save them as we were supposed to? Why did we not turn to the Norwegians for help? Why did seaplanes not fly out?

I posed all of these questions, not only to the responsible officials, but also to my comrades in the Navy.

We did not turn to the Norwegians because the real need for their help arose not during the first few minutes after surfacing but only about 17 hours later after the submarine, having waited for tugboats, suddenly began to take on water and sank. If the Norwegians had received an international SOS at that moment, their helicopters would have managed to arrive at the site of the catastrophe by 19:30, an hour and a half after the Soviet fishing boats arrived.

Why were our M-12 seaplanes not flown out? The commanders of these amphibians stated in their bitter letter addressed to PRAVDA (copy to the chief designer): "The tactical-technical data of our rescue aircraft are such that it is impossible to save the crew of a submarine experiencing a disaster in the open sea. This aircraft can save people only under ideal conditions. The seaplane can take-off and land when waves are 0.6 to 0.8 meters high. And even under these conditions, take-off and landing in a bay or on a lake poses great difficulties

for a ship's captain. We are earnestly requesting that the question be posed about designing a real rescue seaplane for rendering assistance in the open sea during rough seas of not less than 5 points..."

The seaplane aviators' colleagues, the IL-38 anti-submarine warfare aircraft pilots, turned out to be technically much better equipped for carrying out this mission which is not theirs. However, the problem is that they would rescue submariners the same way they rescue pilots. A pilot lands in the water along with an automatically inflating raft and it is attached to a rescue container dropped by parachute. From the raft, he pulls on an actuating lanyard which deploys a large life raft. People who end up in the water can do nothing of the sort. They, submariners, are always primarily training to be saved from the clutches of the depths. Special ships and submarines are built to do just that. But this time the submariners turned out to be in the same situation as the ill-fated passengers of the Admiral Nakhimov. Just as with that tragedy, this new one once again showed how helpless our rescue services are before a problem which is as eternal as sea navigation itself—saving lives in the water.

After many discussions and questions, I can say one thing: Under that same situation and with those on-hand assets which the Northern Fleet has at its disposal, only one true solution was found—send anti-submarine warfare aircraft which can circle over the crippled submarine for hours, maintain uninterrupted communications with it and, the main thing, direct the fishing vessels, by the shortest possible route, to the submarine clung to by the sailors. Any errors in course or wasted minutes searching could cost more lives. "If any old shabby cutter had turned up there, the submariners would have heaved a sigh of relief and all the lads would have been saved..."

The other day after the funerals, I was shocked when I saw the rescue cutter "Fregat", specially designed to be thrown from an aircraft, in the Northern Fleet Naval museum hangar. It was still in the inventory of the Naval Air Force search and rescue service until 1985. And suddenly, it is a museum exhibit.

"What you saw in the museum is ancient history. Today we have the air-droppable cutter "Ersh", said V. Kuts, head of the Northern Fleet Naval Air Force Search and Rescue and Parachute-Assault Service. It exits from the AN-12's cargo bay on special skis and enters the water on parachutes along with a three-man crew (which includes a medic-rescueman). This is what was needed there in the Norwegian Sea. But...

The bitter "But," illustrated through impassive documents and indignant commentary, is, in short, reduced to the dismal conclusion: the cutters are so poorly manufactured that their chief designer and Colonel Kuts jointly signed a ban on using the Ersh in real life. In this state, they not only will not save anyone, they will kill the rescuers themselves. Were they manufactured like

this? From the North, I flew to the city where they were designed in order to find an answer to that question. V. Rubtsov, the Ersh's chief designer told a story as old as the world in answer to that question. The system of collective responsibility killed his child. Thus, one department is responsible only for the seaworthiness of the cutter, the other for the parachute-flight qualities. And so forth...

The saddest thing is that the third generation of rescue cutters (the "Gagar") has been tested, coordinated, and approved, but it will only be presented as an experimental model for many years because the shipbuilding plant which is tasked with serial production, reacting to the topic of the day, is setting up consumer goods as the priority product: pleasure boats, beach equipment, and metal dinnerware... But during any day or at any hour until the first Gagars come out of the plant's doors in accordance with the plan, needed aid can be rendered from the air, not only to submariners, but also to fishermen, passengers, yachtsmen, oil riggers, and cosmonauts. Who will render it? Where is it—the unified state rescue service?

I think that for these very reasons submariners will not soon get life rafts or special clothing which does not burn the body like a ball dress from a New Year's candle, comfortable breathing masks from carbon-based material which will not melt on the face, yes and the main thing—ships which are capable of holding out, in case of accident, until help arrives.

A portion of the assets which are being currently released in connection with the reduction of military expenditures must go toward the creation of reliable rescue equipment. From here, at the empty wharf, it seems obvious and indisputable.

[Passage omitted]

Komsomolets Crew Award Decree Published
18010597 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
14 May 89 First Edition p 1

[Unsigned article; "Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text]

Concerning the awarding of the Order of the Red Banner to the crew of the submarine Komsomolets.

For the courage and selfless actions undertaken in the course of the fulfilment of their military duty, the members of the crew of the submarine Komsomolets are awarded: The Order of the Red Banner.

Avanesov Oleg Grigorevich—Capt 2nd Rank (posthumously).

Anisimov Yuriy Nikolayevich—Warrant Officer.

Apanasevich Igor Olegovich—Senior Seaman (posthumously).

Babenko Valentin Ivanovich—Capt 2nd Rank (posthumously).

Bogdanov Sergey Petrovich—Senior Lieutenant.

Bondar Sergey Stefanovich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Brodovskiy Yuriy Anatolevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Burkulakov Talant Amitzhanovich—Capt 1st Rank (posthumously).

Bukhnikashvili Nodari Otariyevich—Senior Seaman (posthumously).

Valyavin Mikhail Nikolaevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Vanin Yevgeniy Alekseyevich—Capt 1st Rank (posthumously).

Verezgov Aleksandr Gennadevich—Lt Capt.

Vershilo Evgeniy Edmundovich—Senior Seaman (posthumously).

Volkov Nikolay Alekseyevich—Lt Capt (posthumously).

Volodin Aleksandr Vasilevich—Capt 3rd Rank (posthumously).

Gerashchenko Vasily Vladimirovich—Warrant Officer.

Golovchenko Sergey Petrovich—Starshina 2nd Class (posthumously).

Gregulev Vitaliy Anatolevich—Lt Capt.

Grigoryan Semen Rubenovich—Warrant Officer.

Grundul Aleksey Aleksandrovich—Seaman (posthumously).

Dvurov Sergey Aleksandrovich—Lt Capt.

Yelenin Mikhail Anatolevich—Senior Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Yelmanov Vladimir Ivanovich—Capt 3rd Rank.

Zayts Leonid Antonovich—Senior Lieutenant of the Medical Service.

Zaytsev Andrey Valerevich—Lieutenant.

Zamogilnyy Sergey Vasilevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Zimin Vadim Vladimirovich—Lieutenant (posthumously).

Ispenkova Anatoliy Matveyevich—Capt 3rd Rank (posthumously).

Kadantsev Vladimir Sergeyevich—Warrant Officer.

Kalinin Igor Viktorovich—Lt Capt.

Kapusta Yuriy Fedorovich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Kovalev Gennadiy Vyacheslavovich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Kozhanov Aleksandr Petrovich—Warrant Officer.

Kozlov Yuriy Vladimirovich—Seaman.

Kolotilin Vladimir Vasilevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Kolyada Boris Grigorevich—Capt 1st Rank.

Kononov Eduard Dmitriyevich—Warrant Officer.

Kopeyka Aleksandr Mikhailovich—Warrant Officer.

Korytov Andrey Yurevich—Seaman.

Krasnobayev Aleksandr Vitalevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Krasnov Sergey Yurevich—Seaman (posthumously).

Kulapin Vladimir Yurevich—Seaman (posthumously).

Maksimchuk Yuriy Ivanovich—Capt 3rd Rank (posthumously).

Manyakin Sergey Petrovich—Capt 3rd Rank (posthumously).

Markov Sergey Evgenevich—Senior Lieutenant (posthumously).

Makhota Andrey Vladimirovich—Lieutenant.

Mikhalev Andrey Vyacheslavovich—Seaman (posthumously).

Molchanov Igor Aleksandrovich—Lieutenant (posthumously).

Naumenko Evgeniy Vladimirovich—Lt Capt (posthumously).

Nakhalov Sergey Vasilevich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Nezhutin Sergey Aleksandrovich—Lt Capt (posthumously).

Orlov Igor Semenovich—Lt Capt.

Paramonov Yuriy Nikolayevich—Lt Capt.

Podgornov Yuriy Pavlovich—Warrant Officer [praporshchik].

Savin Artur Georgiyevich—Senior Seaman.

Slyusarenko Viktor Fedorovich—Warrant Officer.

Smirnov Mikhail Anatolevich—Lt Capt (posthumously).

Spiranskiy Igor Leonidovich—Lt Capt (posthumously).

Stepanov Andrey Leonidovich—Lieutenant.

Sukhanov Valeriy Ivanovich—Seaman (posthumously).

Tkach Vladimir Vlasovich—Senior Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Tkachev Vitaliy Fedorovich—Seaman (posthumously).

Tretyakov Anatoliy Viktorovich—Lieutenant.

Fedotko Konstantin Anatolevich—Lieutenant.

Filippov Roman Konstantinovich—Seaman (posthumously).

Chernikov Sergey Ivanovich—Warrant Officer (posthumously).

Shinkunas Stasis Klemensovich—Senior Seaman (posthumously).

Shostak Aleksandr Aleksandrovich—Lieutenant (posthumously).

Yudin Vyacheslav Aleksandrovich—Capt 3rd Rank (posthumously).

[Signed by:] Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet M. Gorbachev.

Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet T. Mentashvili.

Moscow, the Kremlin, 12 May 1989.

Majority of Disciplinary Cases Concentrated in Construction Troops

18010455 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
21 Mar 89 First Edition p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Major I. Ivanyuk under the "Problems of a Difficult Fate" rubric: "Arrest—Trial—Conviction"]

[Text] Only recently, thanks to glasnost, has information on level of criminality been made available in our country. The figures indicate that the number of crimes is on the rise, amounting to 3.8 percent for last year compared to 1987.

This naturally has an effect on the Armed Forces. Most inductees who have a record of offense before entering the service are assigned to construction units. Their concentration in a relatively small number of military collectives creates several problems. Some of them are discussed in the article below.

The soldier's name had a geographic ring to it. Let us call him Rostovchanin. He went by the name of Volodya. He arrived at the construction company, where I at the time was the deputy commander for political affairs, coming from a training subunit, as a junior sergeant. Soon afterward he was designated a squad leader. Although I cannot say that his performance was exemplary, I can classify it as adequate. He possessed a certain amount of integrity.

Some time later detachment political officer Major V. Bogatyr summoned me and said with concern:

"You and I have made a big mistake. We recommended a person convicted of a criminal offense for squad leader. Rostovchanin's records, which arrived yesterday, indicate that he served time in a corrections camp for hooliganism. We must relieve him of his duties as soon as possible."

In my subsequent conversation with him, Vladimir did not attempt to hide anything; I understood why he had so carefully covered up his record. He found inexcusable the fact that they—two ninth grade students—beat up a school principle who had not permitted them to attend a school evening function. More than anything else, he was afraid that his world of hopes he was building by his good start in the service would collapse like a house of cards. I must say that he was deeply disturbed by any manifestation of what he perceived to be injustice. Life however taught him, as it were, just how important justice can be. There was much friction in the collective, but Rostovchanin won out and remained as squad leader.

I was transferred out of the construction company before his term of service ran out. I was to learn later that Rostovchanin completed his service and was discharged as squad leader without committing a single infraction or violation of trust.

Thinking about that episode, I cannot help but conclude that everything was resolved quite easily at that time. Partly because Rostovchanin was the only offender in the detachment.

There currently are a rather large number of construction units in which offenders comprise several percent, while in some subunits the number is considerably higher. Attempts are made to regulate their distribution in detachments of housing and quarters organs to keep their numbers below a certain limit, when the social situation in the collective undergoes a change and becomes hard to manage.

On the other hand, persons having a record of conviction are not assigned to the more important sites; this is probably justified. However, attempts are made to keep them away from a number of other places. In some areas this has a distinctly negative effect on the local situation, since officers and warrant officers must work with a "difficult contingent", so to speak.

Why are persons having a criminal record inducted into the service in the first place? All they do is impair discipline and create an undesirable morale situation in the military collective. That is what many people think. Not only the soldiers' parents (such as Nelli Ivanovna Otochina and Raisa Ivanovna Smirnova, who wrote letters to the editors), but also everyone who is involved with education of personnel.

"Since service in the USSR Armed Forces is an honorable duty," reasons Senior Warrant Officer S. Serebryakov, "it should not be extended to everyone—only to those who are worthy."

Under today's conditions, when our sights are set on quality parameters in military construction, it would appear reasonable to conclude that there is no place in the Army for offenders. However, the reality is that this is hardly possible. Is it fair to deprive them of the opportunity of fulfilling their constitutional obligation? It seems to me that we must proceed from the basis that no one who at some time in the past committed a transgression should be rejected by society. Also, it would appear that the best way for a young man with a record of conviction to become rehabilitated in the eyes of people would be to serve in the ranks of the Armed Forces.

"Four years ago I was found guilty of a crime," wrote military builder Private A. Saraykin. After serving my sentence I decided to take up a new life and got married, but I still felt some kind of lack in myself. This was because I—unlike other people of my age—had not served in the military. I went to the voyenkomat. My request was satisfied. Now I am trying to serve conscientiously, in the hope of somehow removing the stain from my life."

Let us not venture too far in our reasoning: Not all people that carry a spot on their record enter the Army with this attitude. This is the exception rather than the

rule. The point has to be made here that among these people there are no recidivists or persons guilty of serious crimes. However, a significant percentage of them do return to their wrongful ways.

Vladimir Samokhovets of Belorussia was found guilty of hooliganism and received a prison sentence, with his confinement deferred. He entered the Army, only to resume his old habits: He was physically abusive and demeaned the integrity of his fellow soldiers. This resulted in his being sentenced to five years to a forced labor camp. He is presently serving his sentence.

Each case of this kind represents the sorry fate of at least one individual—one who was incapable of making a fresh start. Behind such an extraordinary occurrence lie physical suffering, moral degradation, and a mother's tears; this cannot be explained away. However, it is a mistake to think that the offender is solely to blame. It would be too simple to conclude that only he is guilty in cases of barracks hooliganism.

We glean from data provided by the Main Military Procuracy that offenders comprise an insignificant percentage of persons who commit crimes while members of the Armed Forces. Their "contribution" to violation of the regulations has been reduced by half in the recent past. Statistics do not seem to confirm the feeling that army discipline is disrupted by persons who have a run-in with the law before induction into the Army.

"If the roots of evil were to lie in a past offense, this would show up at the very beginning," said Justice Lt Col Nadeyev, inspecting sociologist of the Center for the Study of Social Opinion at the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. "In this regard, a survey of persons convicted of violating the regulations indicates that 55 percent of misdemeanors and crimes are committed after one and a half years of service. Twenty-six percent occur after one year to one and a half years, and only four percent in the first six months of service. Another argument can also be cited. Offenders are generally equally distributed. In this connection, in some units there are undesirable occurrences, while in others there are none. Are failures to live up to the "regs" a rarity in units where there are no offenders at all?

Be that as it may, the Army must often deal with people who must be re-educated, not only educated.

Much in this regard depends on those who are entrusted with educating people. This is an extremely difficult task. Political workers—or commanders and engineers for that matter—are not trained in military schools to handle this kind of educational activity. The offenders are hardly good little boys. However, the majority of them do acquire a respect for the law after they feel the weight of it. If they try to shake up the collective, they do it through someone else, so to speak. If highly experienced psychologists have a difficult time of controlling these processes, what can be expected of young officers? They are obligated to train specialists in a limited period of time to maintain the

country's defensive capability. They must do much to complete that which school and family did not accomplish, and send back to society a well-rounded person.

How is this to be done? This is not an idle question for subunit commanders, their immediate subordinates, and the Komsomol aktiv.

At one time I had occasion to speak with political worker A. Kornev after his return from a corrective labor camp, where he had studied the experience gained in working with offenders.

"Unfortunately, none of that is applicable to our conditions," he advised. "New approaches are required."

Major General M. Simakov, first deputy chief of the Political Directorate, Military Construction Units, after I had related the above attempt, said:

"That is so. You must rely on your own experience. We have generalized this experience and developed guidance, which we made available to military schools and units. The main thing in the procedure we advocate is to adopt an individual approach and demonstrate trust in the person—show an interest in his future."

That is education in theory, so to speak. But what about in practice?

Four noncommissioned officers serving in a construction detachment wrote to the editors to complain that they were relieved of duty even though they were doing good work. The only reason given was a record of a past conviction. Private Yu. Markov was not permitted to work as a bread slicer for the same reason. Attempts are made to keep offenders from operating machinery at military construction sites, even if they possess the necessary training and skills. The reasoning is simple: Something might happen. In case any kind of incident occurs, more often than not suspicion falls on them; many of them become discouraged and suffer serious traumatic feelings.

"I am married and have a child," military builder Private Aleksandr Vodolazskiy wrote to the editors. "I at one time was convicted of a crime and served three and a half years of confinement. No one knows how difficult it is when you are constantly treated with disdain and outright disrespect. Is that why we are inducted into the Army—to be stuck into prison again?"

Next let me tell you the story of military builder Private First Class Nikolay Sidorovskiy. I became acquainted with this case while on a temporary assignment. On the eve of Builder's Day Sidorovskiy was issued a pass to visit his home as a reward for conscientious labor and excellent service. His pass was suddenly pulled, and he was accused of theft. What had happened?

No one disputed the fact that Sidorovskiy from the very beginning served in an exemplary manner and became a private first class. However, what pleased him more than anything else was his being issued the pass, since he could not wait to go home to visit his mother who lived alone and had grieved much because of her son, who had been found guilty, but not sentenced, of fighting with unscrupulous travelling house repairmen. His house was in need of repairs. All of a sudden all was lost.

The enterprise where he worked was missing pressure gauges. These instruments contain rondol, which is a yellow alloy that has the appearance of gold. The "skilled hands" used it to make rings and so-called "fiksy" for capping teeth. A "fiksa" and a registration number were found in the possession of Sidorovskiy. The chief of staff did not hesitate to accuse him of theft, made a general announcement of his guilt, and had the pass pulled. He ordered a trial. The political officer did nothing to defend the accused.

Only after intervention by Lt Gen Ivan Fedorovich Kamyshan, who at that time was chief of the military construction organization, was it determined that there was no basis to suspect the military builder, with the result that Private First Class Nikolay Sidorovskiy was able to go home. A subsequent objective investigation revealed that the accused was innocent of any wrongdoing.

Of course there is no difficulty understanding the caution exercised by commanders, political workers, and even fellow servicemen with the presence of those who chose a very poor way to behave. However, one must adopt a strictly individual approach to prevent this caution from turning into suspicion. The fact is that a closer look reveals that behind many criminal transgressions of those who not long ago were adolescents there are the usual childishness, disorderliness, and loafing. It would also be difficult to exclude the consequences of the accusatory atmosphere which afflicted our system of justice for so many years.

Read what Senior Warrant Officer V. Kolobov, leader of a construction platoon, has to write: "Lack of trust in people, especially persons having a record of a conviction, which I believe came about during the time of the personality cult, was assimilated totally into the thinking of many people, particularly those in Army service. There is no doubt that this is an easy way to shed responsibility, by obeying orders from above. High-sounding phrases about an individual approach to the soldier have issued forth from rostrums, while in reality the rule is underhanded prohibition: Persons having a record of conviction are not to be designated squad leaders, recommended for admission to vuz's, or approved for training in warrant officer schools. It seems to me that this is a poor way to decide a person's future. It is not nothing but harmful; it causes a person to lose faith in justice."

However, it is gratifying to note that many persons who seemed to have lost faith in themselves, made a wrong turn, or fell out of favor with persons they deal with regain all of that by serving in the Army. They can derive enormous satisfaction from being issued a new civilian identity card after turning in the military service card, instead of receiving a document from a place of confinement. In addition, all references to a criminal past can be removed after the allotted time has passed, providing Army service is honorable.

For example, last year the Main Military Construction Directorate, where Maj Gen Yu. Ustinov is chief of the political department, cleared the records of hundreds of military builders, with dozens of them restored to membership in the Komsomol. They acquired—in addition to a building trade—belief in themselves and a chance to start over.

In the draft version of the Fundamental Criminal Legislation, which has been brought out for public discussion, there is a new clause. It states that if an offender shows evidence of rehabilitation after serving his sentence by displaying an honorable attitude toward work and behaves in an exemplary manner, a labor collective or social organization can request a court to wipe his record clean before the specified time period has lapsed. It seems to me that the same kind of law should apply to military collectives.

"I am sure that this would serve as an additional incentive for work and service for many dozens of military builders," said Yuriy Sergeyevich Ustinov. "I believe that all persons who deal with the 'difficult contingent' will support me in this."

There is no doubt that the editors would receive a larger number of letters such as the one written by A. Pavlova of Gorodishche, Volgograd Oblast. She writes:

"Many parents see their children off to enter the Army, believe in them, and place their hopes on them. I, it grieves me to say, had no faith in my son. Also, there was little for me to hope for. He caused us nothing but trouble in the few years before he entered the Army.

"The first few months of his service in a construction detachment were worrisome for us and full of painful expectation. A year passed. Then we unexpectedly received a letter from the detachment; it had nice things to say to us—the parents—about our son.

"I believe that we are not the ones that should be thanked. Thanks are due the commanders and service comrades for the fact that our son served honorably, became a squad leader, and joined the Komsomol, with election to member of the VLKSM bureau."

It cannot be denied that this kind of letter is the best reward for any officer or warrant officer who devotes his life to training yesterday's schoolboys to become worthy defenders of the Motherland.

Metrological Support Competition Held
18010485 KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
30 Mar 89 First Edition p 4

[Interview with Captain 1st Rank V. Medvedev, by Major A. Stolyarov, in the column: "New Developments: Facts, Events, Commentary": "The Goal—Standardization and Accuracy: A Competition for Best Maintenance of Instrumentation in Ground Combat Units and Naval Units"; date and place not given; first two paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] As stated in the pertinent order issued by the USSR Minister of Defense, a competition that is being held has as its goal the assurance of standardization and improvement of the accuracy of measurements as performed in the Armed Forces and the enhancement of the role and significance attached to metrological support relative to the maintenance of troop combat readiness.

We offer below the text of the conversation between our correspondent and Captain 1st Rank V. Medvedev, who is a deputy chief in a department of the USSR Ministry of Defense Metrological Service.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Before we begin, Vladimir Mikhaylovich, can you please tell us about your organization and the mission it is assigned? More likely than not, some people may have metrology confused with meteorology.

[Medvedev] Metrology is the science of measurement. It deals with standardization of measurements, methods of attaining a required accuracy, and techniques and means of accomplishing these goals. Hence the principal tasks of the USSR Armed Forces Metrological Service—assurance of standardization and reliability of measurements in the Soviet Army and Navy; formulation of a standard technical approach to designing measurement equipment; provision of measurement devices for military use; and metrological service and expertise in the area of weapons and other combat materiel.

The above complex of measures is the responsibility of the Armed Forces Metrological Service. The service consists of offices of the service chief, a scientific center, metrological services of the branches of service, and measurement bases and laboratories.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Is the competition a kind of review of the facilities that come under the metrological service?

[Medvedev] It is that and more. We have experienced an increase in both the demands levied on the metrological service relative to combat unit support and in the role assigned to our specialists in the area of improving the combat readiness of armaments and other materiel.

For example, we recently participated in inspections held in a number of tank and artillery units. We determined that rangefinders mounted on combat vehicles and weapons platforms are not adjusted to the design specifications. Metrological personnel had a previous mission of supporting tank instrumentation, for example, but now they play a strong role in eliminating any shortcomings they uncover. Now, as indicated by analysis, weapons users consider this assistance to be essential. This is the basis of the new approach to the activity supported by metrological personnel.

For this reason, the competition is not so much a check on the facilities and equipment of the metrological service as it is a complex of measures intended to effect collaboration between metrological specialists and crews of guns and fighting vehicles in the practical use of instrumentation. There is no doubt that this will promote professional training of specialists who work with armaments and other equipment relative to the use of monitoring and measurement devices.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Tell us how the competition will be organized.

[Medvedev] The competition is broken down into two phases. In the first phase, by 30 March the competition committees will reach a determination relative to which military unit merits best rating for maintenance of instrumentation; the best combined units will be named by 30 July; by 20 December of 1989, they will choose the advanced groups (obyedineniya).

In the second phase, which runs from 1 February to 20 August 1990, the USSR Ministry of Defense competition committee will examine the best groups and choose the competition winners, of which there will be three categories—first, second, and third.

Proposal to Accelerate Motor Vehicle Repair
18010497a Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
4 Apr 89 First Edition p 2

[Article by Captain S. Yurchenko under the rubric "The Reader Suggests": "How to Accelerate Repairs".]

[Text] In my line of work I frequently handle the delivery of motor vehicle equipment to enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Defense for repairs. In my opinion, the existing system for accepting vehicles for repairs needs to be improved.

Under the current system, when a vehicle with missing parts comes in to the plant, the latter accepts the vehicle for storage, and a list of the missing parts is sent to the client. The missing parts are sent to the plant at state expense or a representative of the military unit is sent to the plant. He is taken away from his service duties for an indefinite period, and the state must pay his TDY expenses. Furthermore, this prolongs the time required to repair the vehicles.

I propose a simple but effective method of accepting vehicles for repairs, which is the following. When the plant receives a vehicle with missing parts, it would accept the vehicle for repairs, but the client would be billed for the missing parts. The client would be required to transfer the specified amount to the plant's current account within a certain period of time, and the amount indicated would be exacted from the individuals responsible for sending in the vehicle with missing parts.

Defense Conversion: Molniya Medium Machine-Building Plant in Moscow
18010497b Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
2 Apr 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by V. Romanyuk, Moscow: "Molniya Changes Its Program: Report From a Military Plant Converting to Civilian Production".]

[Text] There is no sign or marker at the entrance to the Molniya Machine-Building Plant. The curtain of secrecy has still not been lifted there. I only had to show my press pass in order to get onto the grounds, however. One would like to think that this is a sign of the times.

For many years the plant specialized in defense industrial production. The decision to convert the plant was no surprise to the collective, however. Plant director N. Mironov had made every effort to reorient his production specialists and designers toward the output of "alternative products." Just what kind? I would remind the reader that as one of the defense ministries the USSR Ministry of Medium machine Building was assigned the job of providing food industry enterprises with equipment. For this purpose Molniya cooperated with two "civilian" plants: Makhachkala and Plavsk in Tula Oblast, which produced industrial separators.

It should be mentioned that during the years the plants were under the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, both of them lagged greatly in their development and presently have very worn-out equipment, and a significant part of their output is clearly not of good quality.

Molniya and other plants of the Ministry of Medium Machine Building rapidly mastered the production of a group of parts for separators. This did not prove difficult. Furthermore, volumes were small. The plants dragged out the 1988 program. It was clear, however, that the equipment produced does not satisfy today's consumers in either quantity or quality. In order to raise up the partners and get them on their feet, however, it was not enough simply to take them in tow. There had to be a merging with them. And an association, the Molniya Machine-Building Plant, came into being.

"It is an inevitable process; the production of defense products is tending toward curtailment," N. Mironov told me. "On the other hand, we are to increase the output of separators by 35-40% in 1990. Our leading

specialists have been sent to Makhachkala and Plavsk. They will determine the capabilities and prospects for development of the two plants. A facility for developing and manufacturing prototypes of new separators will be set up on Molniya grounds. We are working out arrangements for developing the production of small batches of these units, which are popular with agricultural workers.

I asked the general director whether the conversion would not result in problems of a purely human nature due to loss of occupation and a drop in earnings. Nikolay Sergeyevich replied that it is easy for the machine builders to re-specialize, since there were actually no special advantages with respect to wages for the military plant's workers. It is not just a manner of similarity of the operations, of course. The main thing is that the "defense operation" developed and solidified in the working class such qualities, so essential today, as a high level of professionalism, responsibility and self-discipline—I would even say pride in their work

The assembly area alone will require freeing up 3,000-4,000 square meters of space. The production processes are being rearranged in the machine shops, and a second shift will be filled out in the future. Setting up the complete production cycle will require the purchase of heavy lathes and special equipment, particularly equipment for producing rolled parts from sheet metal.

Many prospects for growth are opening up also for the collectives of branch plants. And not just in the production of industrial separators. The plant presently produces more than 250,000 Plava manual separators annually as consumer goods, and the demand for them continues to grow. This is something for the association leaders to think about.

"We began on a small scale," said A. Popenko, chief of Machine Shop No. 4. "The list of parts is greater today, around 50, and they are produced in large lots. Civilian products already account for almost one third of the total volume."

I met A. Bazanov, adjuster of program-controlled machine-tools. In addition to parts for the defense items, he also works on separator assemblies. Permissible tolerances are approximately the same, but the semifinished products from Plavsk are of poor quality and have large deviations.

I was told that when the Molniya workers first went to Plavsk, they were unable to produce the quota on the equipment; it was in such disrepair. They were accustomed to a different quality of work. And now one of the tasks is to convert to peacetime production and begin teaching the defense industry workers to do good work. Chief engineer V. Nikolaychev who accompanied us to the shop told me that he sees the main danger in the conversion to peacetime production precisely in the possibility that quality and performance requirements could drop. It is a real danger: Molniya has long operated

with the "zero defect" principle. The time limits are not as rigid there as at the branch plants, however. If the usual "civilian" job rates are extended to the Moscow workers, they are unlikely to meet the targets, and quality could indeed deteriorate. And so, the conversion is not without its problems.

Let me say also that the association is presently producing the separators at a loss. This means that ways must be sought to achieve profitability, and economic accountability must be enhanced..

Getting rid of the losses is just half of the job. Currency will be needed to purchase the modern equipment. In order to earn enough of it, competitive products will have to be produced. The grade of the items must be resolutely improved, and the warranty of defect-free operation will have to be extended several times over. The development section of the former Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, which previously designed the separators, is being turned over to association.

And so, the military plant has begun the process of converting. This means that sooner or later it is bound to encounter problems typical of the civilian branches. And they are already beginning to make themselves felt. First of all, the pricing system has not been adjusted. The current procedure for setting prices for the separators provides absolutely no incentive to increase the service life of the assemblies. A similar Swedish separator with an electronic system is dozens of times more expensive, but its warranty is many times longer than ours. Ours is of an outmoded design, and it has a warranty of only 18 months. The infamous "gross-numbers approach," the orientation toward outlays and difficulties with material and technical supply are hindering things. When defense industry products were produced materials were supplied on a priority basis. Now, however, the supply problems to which the "civilians" are accustomed will make themselves fully felt.

I would also note that the conversion of Molniya involves not just the separators. A year ago, having just heard of the proposed changes in the production program, the collective entered into creative collaboration with the Institute of Atomic Energy imeni Kurchatov. A temporary scientific production team was set up, which fairly rapidly created a plant like nothing else in the nation. Its purpose was to strengthen the machine parts, particularly the cutting tools, by means of ionic implantation. A particular advantage of the technology is that it does not alter the configuration of the part and therefore does not require additional grinding.

I was taken to the section where the installation of the first three units is being completed. The installation is being performed by a group headed by N. Razgonyayev, deputy chief of the new equipment section. Nikolay Ivanovich told me that the plant could produce up to 20,000 of the units a year. The technology for strengthening various types of tools still has to be worked out. Orders have already been received from machine builders and electricians. This is understandable, since the new method produces tools with double or triple the strength of those produced by the existing method: milling cutters, drills, tap-borers and turbine vanes.

It is also planned to set up the production of computer networking equipment at the head plant. This is an extremely science-intensive operation, whose purpose is to link enterprises or territories into an electronic computer network.

Conversion, a new concept for us, is becoming increasingly firmly established in the economy and in our life. It is calculated that under the 13th Five-year Plan conversion will have affected 50% of Molniya's production capacities; 70%, when branch plants are taken into account. The technical production capability of the military plant is increasingly being oriented toward the output of peacetime products.

Oblast Fulfillment of 1986 Decree on Pre-Draft Training

Lack of Facilities Noted

18010461a Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 2, Feb 89 pp 8-9

[Article by VOYENNYE ZNANIYA special correspondent G. Chernyshev under the "Operation 'Inductee'" rubric: "Changes Would Be More Noticeable"]

[Text] On 10 June 1986 the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers passed a joint decree intended to improve the training of youth of pre-draft and draft age for active military service. What changes have come about in military training and military patriotic education in the last two years? Has physical training improved? Are the youth mentally fit to fulfill their constitutional obligation? Our special correspondents and readers were requested to obtain answers to these questions.

The changes would be more noticeable if the resolutions on organizing and improving facilities for pre-draft training in secondary schools, tekhnikums, and rural vocational and technical schools in Lvov Oblast were carried out as prescribed.

The first thing I was to learn upon arriving in Lvov Oblast was that there are many difficulties associated with fulfilling the 10 June 1986 decree approved by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, especially in the area of organizing and improving pre-draft training equipment and facilities. Judge for yourself. In the oblast there are 533 schools, but only 322 of them are equipped with a complete training facility. There is a shortage of 103 target ranges, 121 tactical and civil defense training systems, 147 obstacle courses, 66 sports facilities, and many other elements.

The above figures furnish much food for thought. This does not paint a rosy picture, in our opinion. However, let us not rush to conclusions. My meetings and talks with Major General I. Altashin, oblast military commissar; G. Degtyareva, chief of oblast education administration; M. Grigortsev, assistant deputy chairman of the Lvov oblast ispolkom, and other comrades showed me that they possess a good grasp of the situation and, working in collaboration with the obkom, are doing much to make changes for the better.

Thus, problems concerning further improvement of training facilities and raising the quality of pre-draft training were discussed a number of times by the bureau and secretariat of the KPU [Ukrainian Communist Party] (where the oblast military commissar read a report on two occasions) and sessions of the oblast education administration and oblast ispolkom. The resolutions passed were pertinent and specific, and the

corresponding follow-up is being made. However, the changes—even though they did come about—do not bring feelings of satisfaction to managers. What are the causes of this? There are a number of them, in our opinion. On the objective side, we can point out that some schools, such as those in Lvov, are located in the old part of the city, where there is no space between the buildings, and, no matter how one looks at the situation, there simply are no possibilities of setting up sports complexes, obstacle courses, and other training facility elements.

Some of the oblast's rayons (of which there are 25) are situated in hilly areas, which also complicates resolution of existing problems. It is true that the oblast military commissariat and the oblast education administration did find a solution: They made a survey of the secondary schools, tekhnikums, and rural vocational and technical schools located in the rayons that possess the most suitable training facilities, and arranged for students from deficient schools to train there on a rotating basis. In addition, the DOSAAF obkom renders assistance. Thus, there are no hopeless situations, as we can see from this example. It is another matter when there is no desire to find a solution or carry out the decisions as prescribed. It now becomes a question of subjective causes.

As mentioned above, in Lvov Oblast there are 25 rayons. The oblast managers came up with a very good idea. The rayon executive committees of councils of peoples' deputies acted on the managers' idea to adopt definite resolutions concerning helping schools build target ranges, sports complexes, obstacle courses, and tactical training and civil defense facilities to comply with the requirements set by the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers. Plans were drawn up to set up 536 training elements in the oblast, but only 331 saw the light of day. The resolutions were fulfilled in the amount of 61.7 percent. What had happened? I believe that much of the activity was ill-advised. There was no follow-up, and no contribution made by those managers of enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhoses whose deeds do not match their words.

During my talks and meetings with persons that had something to do with problems of organizing and improving training facilities, I gained the impression that major responsibility was passed to the oblast education administration, oblast military commissariat, and local military commissariats. In this regard, military commissariats are often saddled with irregular functions. It is obvious that the time has come to explain things properly to certain managers, delineate the responsibility, and appoint official operators who would initiate and coordinate joint efforts.

I believe that much benefit could be derived from inviting greater participation by the Carpathian Military District, some units of which are stationed in Lvov Oblast. Why would this be helpful? Let us say that a

missile battalion is being deactivated. A natural consequence is shutting down the installation. Why not put to the USSR Ministry of Defense the question of converging it, together with existing barracks and other buildings, into a defense-oriented sports and health camp? There are also other ways to render effective assistance.

It is no secret that new schools are being erected according to obsolete plans, ones that do not reflect the needs of the time and ignore pre-draft training. Many pre-draft training facilities must be built from the ground up, with the attendant search for additional funding. This is extremely difficult under the conditions of economic responsibility being introduced. Is it not time for the oblast managers to demand and attain new, modern plans and institute them?

I would also like to call attention to the role that the oblast Komsomol organization plays in accomplishing the tasks set by the party and government. It should be most actively involved. However, ...

A. Loyko, who is the department chief for sports and mass defense work of the Lvov obkom, LKSMU [Lenin Young Communist League of the Ukraine], made it clear from the very beginning of our conversation that he has nothing to do with pre-draft training facility and equipment problems. According to him, these come under the purview of the oblast ispolkom, oblast military commissariat, and oblast education administration.

"We have other things to do," he remarked.

However, Aleksandr qualified that somewhat by telling me that he, as a committee member, did attend with the committee that included other obkom personnel several general inspections held in 1987 and 1988 in oblast rayons, and that he could, if there is a need, prepare a report in a day or two on the state of the training facilities. However, he is ready to discuss now priority activities such as the "Heat Lightning" and "Eaglet" games, organization of sports camps for difficult adolescents, and a number of other activities. In detail. (I wonder if Comrade Loyko could explain how he thinks he can train young people to become army recruits without the use of suitable training facilities.)

"On Monday the next planning committee is to visit Pustomytovskiy and Peremyshlyanskiy rayons," said Major V. Ivanov, oblast military commissariat section chief, entering the conversation. "There is a briefing scheduled for 1600 today."

"We will certainly have a comrade there," assured A. Loyko, who then claimed that he had other matters to attend to and left the office.

"That is the usual story," advised Viktor Mikhaylovich, "when there is something that must be done, people always find other matters that demand their attention. Although this is my second year in the oblast military

commissariat, I cannot recall a single case when someone from the Komsomol obkom, let alone the department chief himself, would come out for an inspection or would stick his head into our office at the commissariat and visit the department, let alone the commissar. To introduce himself, have a chat, talk over problems. In March of 1988, for example, we inspected the training facilities in Zolochevskiy rayon schools. All the representatives from interested organizations were there. The LKSMU obkom was the only one that declined to attend: It turned the matter over to the Busskiy raykom, who sent a girl librarian, of all persons, who knew nothing whatsoever about training facilities."

The Komsomol obkom comrades also ignored a three-day session set up to instruct managers of defense-related sports and health camps that was held in April.

Now the final thought. Oblast mass information media, including those of the Komsomol, could have something substantial to say about resolving many important problems of organizing and improving training facilities at schools and about carrying out the decisions made in this regard. Alas! They are not active in shedding any light on existing problems or generalizing advanced experience.

Meanwhile, the briefing for the next committee was held in the oblast military commissariat, with no representative from the Komsomol oblast committee present. Aleksandr Loyko did not keep his word.

Pre-Draft Youth Poorly Trained

18010461a Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 2, Feb 89 pp 9-10—

[Article by VOYENNYE ZNANIYA special correspondent S. Brish: "Sound the Alarm"]

[Text] That particular day, the same as other days of call-up time, was hectic at the Karaganda Oblast induction station. There were many people on the parade field: Teams of inductees were being lined up preparatory to departure. Watching with interest were boys waiting their turn.

The report prepared by the oblast military commissariat for the Karaganda Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan read as follows: "Students from rural vocational and technical schools and specialized secondary schools score especially poorly in military subjects.

"The lack of availability of training equipment and facilities is disturbing. Not a single head of a school or base enterprise has been punished for failing to fulfill the ispolkom resolutions calling for the organization of training facilities.

"Measures to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee and Council of Ministers decree of 10 June 1986 have not been taken."

I naturally wondered what knowledge the lads bring here, to the induction station, and how physically fit they are. My ensuing conversation with them was lively and interesting to both sides.

To my question concerning the attitude the boys hold with respect to military service, many replied that they felt good about it, that they want to serve. I did detect a note of irony in some replies: What difference does it make whether you want to serve or not; "they will take you anyway." I pointed out to the lads that the Army does not "take" anyone—it "inducts" people. They agreed readily, but the irony remained.

Quoting once again from the report prepared by the oblast military commissariat for the Karaganda Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan: "Organizers of school extracurricular activities have distanced themselves from involvement in military patriotic education, reasoning that this kind of work falls within the exclusive purview of military training officers. Supervision and leadership of pre-draft training is very weak on the part of education departments."

The boys reacted positively and with obvious enthusiasm to a request that they demonstrate the state of their physical fitness by doing pullups on the horizontal bar. Most of them did rather well! Of 13 inductees, 10 scored "good" or "excellent", two rated a "three," and one managed a "two." These were a special case, however. The actual general situation is somewhat different.

Quoting from the resolution passed by the Molodezhnoye raysovet of people's deputies, Karaganda Oblast: "Only 78 percent of youth at call-up time live up to the norms of the GTO [prepared for labor and defense] complex, while a mere 22 percent qualify at the sports level."

The inductees that had rated a "two" or "three" flatly refused to grant an "interview" (since they were visibly upset by their poor performance on the bar), while the ones that had scored an "excellent" were most happy to do so.

Sergey Lyutov: Serving in the Army is worth-while. I have heard about the "hazing" of new inductees by older soldiers, but think that this is all right (!): You are harassed for a year, then you can harass someone else. Pre-draft training was interesting in our rural vocational and technical school, but when it came to regulations and other "theory," it was boring.

Another complaint about boring pre-draft training was expressed by Nurlat Serikov: What I liked was disassembling and shooting assault rifles. Our school had air rifle groups. The boys enjoyed that a lot. But sitting in a classroom and studying regulations or tactics was boring.

"But you cannot perform your service properly if you do not know the regulations," I remarked.

The boys agreed readily, but continued to complain about boredom and uninteresting pre-draft training textbooks.

Quoting from the Karaganda Oblast military commissar's order "Review of the 1987/1988 Pre-Draft Training Year in Schools and Training Centers of Karaganda Oblast": "A mere 22 percent of schools have fully equipped training facilities.

"Seventy-two military training officers have been given unsatisfactory ratings in the area of weapons instruction, with 12 receiving this rating for tactical training."

I had long talks with the conscripts. They expressed various opinions on military service. Some of them were optimistic, and there were others that were indifferent toward their forthcoming service, while some felt that they were about to go on a pleasure trip.

There was a short break in the medical board's schedule. I took advantage of it to speak with one of its leading specialists—Candidate of Medical Sciences Arkadiy Isakovich Shusterov.

Alas! There was little optimism in what he had to say. I was to find out why: Every year the oblast shows an increase in number of possible conscripts that are "turned down" by physicians because of various illnesses, primarily those of a mental and emotional nature. The usual diagnosis is "pedagogical neglect." The doctor also pointed out that many lads were physically unfit.

An even more depressing picture was painted by the next person with whom I spoke: Lt Col V. Churilov. The following are just some of the figures he cited.

In 1987 there was a 40 percent increase in deferments due to poor health compared to 1985. Official records for 1988 indicate that the number of youth of pre-draft age requiring medical treatment jumped fourfold compared to 1985. The major cause, according to Lt Col V. Churilov, is virtually non-existent therapeutic work in localities, particularly remote rural areas of the oblast. All who were participating in the conversation agreed with that opinion. District headquarters officer Major V. Samsonov noted that after every call-up district headquarters sends letters voicing extreme concern to local party and soviet organs, but the situation continues to deteriorate with each passing year.

"When will they listen to us?" asked Major V. Samsonov. Major S. Artamonov, rayon military commissar of Yegindybulakskiy rayon, added that in his rayon there is an acute shortage of physicians specializing in adolescents, surgeons, and ophthalmologists. There is also a deficiency in pre-draft instruction and sports facilities. Sessions of the raysovet (of which S. Artamonov is the deputy) devote more attention to organizing leisure for youth than to developing sports and health facilities.

In a word, there has been no improvement in training youth for Army service. There, at the induction station, we see obvious manifestations of shortcomings in knowledge, omissions, and incomplete training in physical and mental preparedness of conscripts. That is why physicians and officers are sounding the alarm—loud and clear.

COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo DOSAAF SSSR, "Voyennyye znaniya", 1989

Kursk Organizations Train 50 Percent of Draft Age Youth

18010461b Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 2, Feb 89 pp 10-11

[Article by I. Chikomasova: "At a Crawl: Progress of the Kursk Industrial Rayon Committee of DOSAAF"]

[Text] We held a conversation as far back as the time of the fall call-up. A large number of us had gathered in the Palace of Culture of the Kursk Tractor Spare Parts Plant to send off the conscripts. I asked the boys, "Do you consider yourselves to be ready for military service?"

There was confusion and silence.

"I don't know," Zhenya Ishchuk attempted to reply, "not quite, I think."

"But at your enterprise you have the DOSAAF primary organization, and the sections."

"That must be so, but I have never spoken with the chairman or anyone involved with the sections."

"But you do have some idea of what the DOSAAF is?"

"I did attend a class in the DOSAAF auto school, so I know what it is," said Sergey Pronin. "But all of us did not go there."

During those days I heard replies similar to the ones above in other organizations of the Industrial Rayon. The primary organizations located there number 110. Their performance and the work of the raykom in general are rated satisfactory by the obkom of the defense society. After speaking with Raykom Chairman V. Kutovoy and visiting the primary organizations, I can say without doubt that the reports do not lie. However, if that is the case, why are there no tangible results?

Fifty percent of the rayon conscripts learn a specialty in the DOSAAF training organizations. Drivers are trained by SPTU [Rural Vocational and Technical School] 27, and there is a nautical school, but many boys do not want to study there. Personal contacts and dissemination of information on military subjects and skills have not been successful. Attendance is poor at technical and applied military sports contests. The same pre-draft age youth participate in them year after year.

"We do have primary organizations that are not successful," said DOSAAF raykom Chairman V. Kutovoy. "Five chairmen have been replaced at the meat combine, and still no results. The Kurskenergospetsremont says, 'Leave us alone. We do not have time for the DOSAAF.' Chairman L. Nezkorodov at TETs-1 collects dues and considers that to be the full extent of his obligation. At the Ryzhkovskiy Brick Plant, the secretary of the party organization collects dues, while the chairman—A. Kononov—does nothing at all. The list goes on."

The raykom tends to look for support from large organizations, where chairmen have time available. However, even this kind of support is relative. For example, there are many young people in the Khimvolokno production organization, 30 to 40 conscripts are sent off every year, but...

"To tell you the truth, we are not involved with conscripts," said S. Khristov, committee chairman of the primary organization. "All we do is give the conscripts a grand send-off. While we do have a target range, hold a shooting contest every quarter, and organize the applied military relay race, participation is low."

Was the above said by the chairman of the largest and most powerful organization in the rayon?!

Let us assume that S. Khristov is entirely to blame in this case. However, we did speak with conscripts from the Kursk Tractor Spare Parts Plant, an organization no less powerful. The picture is depressing there, also. We can go on: the Kurskstroydetal, the Kurskpromstroy trust, the city power system, and others—stagnation everywhere. Affairs deteriorated to such an extent that at one time the dues were deducted from pay on payday, in the amount of 30 kopeks.

There is some help in the form of events held in the sports defense camp sponsored by the rayon military commissariat. However, not everyone receives this training. Five shifts would be required to take care of all conscripts. Meanwhile, 30 percent cannot perform at the norms set by GTO [prepared for labor and defense].

Viktor Nikolayevich Kutovoy is not a newcomer to his position of chairman. Much has changed in the rayon during his tenure. When he first arrived there were 14 target ranges in the secondary schools and SPTU; now there are 30. He scrounged weapons, begged for and demanded funding for construction, and acquired athletic equipment and ammunition by hook and crook. He selected chairmen for primary organizations, supported enthusiasts, and accomplished much. The chairman's day is timed to the minute: contests, seminars, review of progress on the part of primary organizations, rendering assistance to the latter. All the party committee secretaries and all the managers know Viktor Nikolayevich.

I am not highlighting the positive side of what I saw in Kursk; perhaps it is the positive side that compels me to ascertain the cause of the slow progress being made. The fact is that the Kurskrezinotekhnika and Khimvolokno production organizations are training class "B" drivers; technical groups in the Palace of Culture and schools are well equipped; there are the motor and radio sections, the internationalist soldier club, and much more.

Why is it so difficult to interest everyone, to use V. Kutovoy's words? Because there is little innovation and variety in mass defense and military patriotic work. I believe that we must enlarge the number of sections to appeal to the interests of pre-draft youth.

Alas! The raykom has a difficult time of supporting existing sections, let alone organize new ones. The fact is that only five to 10 percent of the rayon committee's requests are satisfied a year at best. That is not much.

The shortage of equipment gives rise to a fear: The boys may break something. New equipment is not readily available. The end result is that the equipment is often "protected" from the boys. The conscripts were disturbed:

"We would take instruction, but we are usually not trusted: 'Don't touch this; don't touch that.'"

So now we have the major elements of the slippage - lack of trust and shortage of equipment—that keep pre-draft youth from active participation in DOSAAF work. Another factor is dividing the boys into the good and the bad, and treating all problem youngsters as if they were hopeless. According to information provided by the CPSU rayon committee, some of the boys are offenders and some have files at the Committee for Affairs of Adolescents. A.V. Kutovoy is of the opinion that the raykom is not obligated to work with them.

At the plenary meeting of the DOSAAF rayon committee, Sergey Vorobyev, a former internationalist soldier, said that many pre-draft age boys react to the poor regard in which they are held by not participating in section activities; this kind of treatment causes them to lose trust in their seniors. He sees this as the cause of shortcomings that exist in the work of the defense society.

"If a person is constantly told to 'be good, be good,' he may do the exact opposite out of a feeling of resentment. That is what happened to many friends of mine," said conscript Misha Pavlov. "A better way is to stop asking us to be good and trust that we are good now."

COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo DOSAAF SSSR, "Voyennyye znaniya", 1989

Serious Deficiencies in Restructuring Officers' Schools Noted

18010484 KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
30 Mar 89 First Edition p 2

[Article by Col V. Kovalevskiy, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor, Military Academy imeni F. E. Dzerzhinskiy, in the column: "Perestroyka in the Officers' School—A Point of View": "What Should the VUZ Teach?"]

[Text] I am convinced that were each officer handed the book: "The Higher Military School", he would read it with interest and to his advantage. It was published as long ago as 1909, incidentally, four years after Tsushima and Port Arthur. There was a purpose to its being published. It analyzed the causes of the failures suffered in the war. Most particularly, large numbers of scholars and specialists in applied science were searching for ways to improve the system of training officers. The book reflected conclusions and concepts, some of which are quite topical for the present. In addition, this book remains as the first and in all likelihood the sole significant work that examines the role and development of the domestic higher military school.

I have picked this particular example to provide a basis for stating a depressing fact: In spite of the mountain of literature stored on library shelves, we still do not have any substantial scientific investigations which would delve deeply and broadly into problems of development of the higher military school as a social institute. In my opinion, this is one of the causes of the absence of noteworthy qualitative changes in training of military cadre, even though efforts have been made in this regard over a period of many years.

Yes, VUZ's have accumulated a number of problems in the past decades. In my opinion, however, we will not be able to resolve them without first arriving at a definite strategy for providing a military education and without achieving a new interpretation of the social purpose, character, functions, and general developmental approaches associated with the education. This is necessary, since the present higher military education system does not take aspects of the new reality into account. We are now involved in new political thinking; the military has adopted a defensive military doctrine; and we are witnessing the formation of a new principle of Soviet military construction, with emphasis being placed on quality. The officers' school has come to occupy a central position in these processes. What role should it play? How should it develop? What should be its goals?

There is a dire need for a well-thought-out concept of restructuring the higher military school which would include all the values of the new socialism and assure priority development of military education, without treating the latter as a routine task, as is the case at present.

The "forge of officer cadre"—that is how we refer to our VUZ's with a touch of pride, without reflecting on the fact that the assembly-line, mass-production training of military specialists that is indeed reminiscent of stamping of articles in a hot forging shop is geared to volume output, to mass "production." This symbol of military education is an entirely realistic reflection of old and oversimplified ideas of the dialectically complex process of an officer's personality formation that reduces the educational activity to mere training of a military specialist.

Is it not time to effect a radical change? And look into the future to attempt to gain some idea of the perestroyka processes that will come about in society and the Armed Forces and ask ourselves: What should the officer be like under these conditions? This includes devoting some thought to events occurring at the present time. For example, in the military why is there such display of lack of culture in interpersonal relationships, profanity, lack of respect for personal dignity, and abuses of official position? Why is the concept of integrity and honor held in such poor regard? Is this not due to the fact that many military specialists lack qualities that derive from a true education and intellectual sophistication?

I am convinced that if we remain reconciled to training the officer as nothing more than a military specialist, the time will come when he will not be able to fulfill his function. Even now a knowledge of military science alone is insufficient; there is an increasing need for an intellectual type of officer, one who sets an example of a person possessing a high level of culture and a broad education. The bitter truth is that the present day military VUZ is not quite in a position to produce such an officer. The fact is that a good program of instruction is not sufficient: It is necessary to create objective conditions that are conducive to harmonious development of the personality. Part of the solution lies in effecting a complete renewal of the material and technical base and instituting comprehensive computerization of the educational process, even though this task constitutes the epitome of difficulty. Probably even more difficult would be the conversion of the VUZ, especially the academy, into a unique Armed Forces university, which would offer lectures on literature, art, ethics, military courtesy, aesthetics, military rhetoric, design, ergonomics, and ecology—all of which would occupy a position of equality with other subjects. In this university, lecture halls would be the scene of seminars led by public figures and statesmen, famous military leaders, outstanding scientists, artists, and writers. It would be a place where everything, literally everything, would promote harmonious development of the personality. This is the VUZ of the future that I envision. More than a center of education and science, it would be a true seat of culture. This is the only kind of VUZ that can train cadre that will be capable of the new political thinking and possess the wherewithal to function successfully under the conditions attending democratization of military

service and assure a high state of combat readiness on the basis of quality factors and cadre born of perestroika.

This kind of VUZ should attract the best of world and domestic educational practice. It should be clear that the level of academic education is determined primarily by teaching staffs that possess high qualifications and by the conditions surrounding them. In this regard, there is little difference between the situations of the professorial staff in academies and those in officers' schools. Even the criteria for cadre selection show little difference. To be sure, no one is surprised at this. We have become accustomed to it! In the same way that we have become accustomed to the apparent absence of a single academician in our academies.

The democratic practice of electivity of VUZ cadre widely employed in civilian institutes is almost unknown in the military school. How can we realize perestroika if key VUZ positions are not filled by the best teaching personnel and by brilliant personalities? This will not happen until radical and comprehensive changes are made in the staffing system. To harbor a hope that all this will come about in the natural course of events, that call-ups alone can accomplish perestroika, or that commanders who have nothing to offer but lackluster line duty can come into their own as heads of VUZ's is naive, to say the least.

We have reaped the benefits of the above. It appears that at all levels there is a recognition of the need for democratizing the educational process and effecting an individual approach to education, in the absence of which it is impossible to train an officer to become a creative person. Virtually nothing is being done in this regard. The drawing up of individual study plans and conduct of surveys to ascertain the efficiency of teaching personnel remain in the discussion stage, an activity considered to border on the illegal. What about overloading of instruction groups and excessive demands on instructors? And the obsolete training base?

The above problems are not simple, of course, but it is time to seek solutions, not put them off. Much here is associated with shortage of means. But why not use the following approach. It is a fact that the largest single body of officers—engineers and technicians—is trained by officers' schools. This is as it should be. However, a high technical level of training that is related to military specialties is provided by certain civilian VUZ's, which, in my opinion, could satisfy requests levied by the USSR Ministry of Defense to good advantage of the government in the economies that could be effected.

I also believe that there is merit in taking up the problem of possible admission of women to a number of academies and officers' schools. Why cannot our military VUZ's train women to become specialists in communications, administrative and support activities, financial service, and military law, thus making it possible to enhance the process of selecting men for admission to academies and officers' schools by attracting the most talented and worthy candidates?

I have merely touched on a small number of problems, of course, in an attempt to paint a useful picture of a modern military VUZ. It is possible that certain aspects of my presentation are debatable. Nonetheless, I am convinced that the interests of perestroika will be well-served by our achieving a deep understanding of events, effecting scientific development of all kinds of ideas, and creating and promoting the sociology of military education.

Yet another matter. The journal VOYENNO-PEDAGOGICHESKIY SBORNIK was published at the end of the last and beginning of the present century. It would be superfluous to point out the acute need for this kind of publication at the present time. Such a VUZ journal would make it possible to present problems of higher military schools and the military pedagogical activity of the latter, in addition to providing a basis for evaluating events taking place in academies and officers' schools in the light of glasnost.

Soviet Participation in Arab-Israeli War of Attrition Recalled

18010537 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
25 Mar 89 p 2

[Interview with reserve officers V. Zhayvoronok and K. Popov, conducted by Maj. A. Dokuchayev: "That Egyptian Year"]

[Text] "Dear Editors! From the letter of Col (Res) N. Probylov, "We also fought...", published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 8 March of this year, I learned that Air Defense soldiers performed international tasks in the Near East in 1970-1971. Could you tell about this in more detail." (Sr. Lt. V. Simakov).

Our correspondent met with reserve officers V. Zhayvoronok and K. Popov, who were direct participants in those events. Boris Ivanovich Zhayvoronok commanded an antiaircraft missile unit, and was awarded the Order of the Red Star for his show of courage. Konstantin Ilich Popov was the commander of an antiaircraft missile battalion, and returned from Egypt a Hero of the Soviet Union. How do they remember that summer of 1970? Our talk began with this question.

[Zhayvoronok] To this day the picture remains before my eyes: the sun beating down, swiftly blowing sand, unaccustomed off-white uniforms on our soldiers and officers, the antiaircraft missile complexes camouflaged in bright yellow nets, flashes of fire from the launching missiles... That's something you can't forget. Things were not easy for us there in the United Arab Republic. It was a test of who you were. You see Konstantin Ilich Popov before you now—he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. Nikolay Mikhaylovich Kutynstev was awarded the same honor. Many officers, soldiers, and sergeants received orders and medals.

[Popov] For me the time was a moral turning point, a time of meditation. I was a participant in the Great Patriotic War... In the forties we defended the Motherland, but this was a far-off Arab country. However we understood the government's task, and later our hearts warmed to the land of the friendly Arab people. They were resisting an aggressor that had seized considerable territory from the Arab countries in the summer of 1967 during the so-called "Six-Day War". From the UAR in particular, the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip. And had never ceased heating up the situation. Under these circumstances our help was necessary.

[Dokuchayev] How did Egypt start for you, or more precisely, your temporary duty there?

[Popov] For me, with arrival in the battalion (they served then in the Moscow AD District) of Boris Ivanovich Zhayvoronok. One day he said: a unit is forming to train UAR service members in the USSR. There will be a trip to the range, and we need skilled specialists. We went to the range and did in fact first train Arab

missilemen. For a long time the fact of the upcoming trip to Egypt was kept a secret. I remember we had to be passed by a medical examining board for service in a hot dry climate. Some people said we were going to Vietnam (at that time repelling American aggression). We looked at the reference books. No dry weather, neither in the North nor in the South. We realized the needle was pointing toward the African continent. Fifteen days before departure, we were told that we were being assigned to provide international assistance to Egypt. Those days flew by in extremely hard training. And then we went by train to Black Sea ports, and on to Alexandria.

In Alexandria the transport was unloaded in one night. The equipment of the battalion was repainted yellow, or more precisely a sandy color, and loaded on truck trailers. We ourselves were reclothed in uniforms of that same color. This was done simply. Each specialist was handed a sack containing a uniform without shoulder boards, a towel, mess kit, dry rations...

The sun came up, and we didn't recognize ourselves... The bright yellow equipment was strange to our eyes, and we were wearing strange uniforms. All this, and the Egyptian soldiers on the roads with weapons said quite clearly: we had come to a country at war. After completing a march, we assumed firing positions and were ready to repel enemy air raids.

[Zhayvoronok] The Egyptian servicemen tried. They did a good job of preparing the positions. They made shelters of reinforced concrete for many stations and cabs, and used sandbags for the launchers and loader/transporters. Our missile complexes were covered by Shilka self-propelled antiaircraft units and mobile "Strela-2" complexes. Visual observation posts were also set up. All electricity came from the organic diesels operating around the clock. There was increased attention to alert duty. Not for a minute did the alarming sense of awaiting battle leave us.

[Dokuchayev] I imagine you had to get used to more than this?

[Zhayvoronok] Of course. For example, some had a hard time with the climate. We arrived in Egypt in Spring, when the hamsin was blowing. Hamsin is Arabic for "fifty". That is roughly the number of days that the sandstorms rage, with short interruptions. Hellish heat and sand blowing in your face cause weakness and increase irritability. Blood pressure climbs, pulse increases. Over time you become acclimatized, but to the end we could not get used to it. Even now I remember the crunching sand: in my teeth, in my porridge, compote...

The heat replaced the hamsin. One day I called the battalion and asked them to report the temperature in the cabs. "Hit the top", they said. "What?"—"The mercury". But the organic thermometer went to 52 degrees. There were heat strokes.

[Dokuchayev] And when did the combat action start for you?

[Zhayvoronok] Here I should say that our main tasks were to prevent the enemy from breaking through west of the Suez Canal—by that time the Sinai Peninsula was occupied. At some point the enemy apparently realized that the Egyptians had succeeded in strengthening their AD forces, and they were showing caution. Then, after deciding that they had complete intelligence data on the opposing side, they attacked. By the way, from March to August around 6 thousand aircraft sorties were flown. The soldiers of the subunits commanded by Major G. Komyagin and Capt. V. Malyauk joined battle for the first time on 30 June. At that time, together with Egyptian battalions they had formed the so-called canal grouping to protect the ground forces. The enemy was trying first of all to destroy the air defense forces; these kept him from doing significant harm to the Egyptian Army. Then came the next attempt. This time the aggressor aircraft met our troops. A Phantom was shot down by the very first missile—before this the Egyptians had destroyed only Mirages and Skyhawks.

The battle of 18 July was even more fierce. At noon the Israelis delivered a strike on an Egyptian battalion. Within two hours there came another raid by a large group of aircraft echeloned vertically and horizontally. The battalions of Majors M. Mansurov and V. Tolokonnikov joined the battle. First everything went successfully for us. Two launches, two destroyed aircraft. However in the next raid four Phantoms came at the battalion from the rear and bombarded it with rockets. Then there was a bombing strike. Eight men were killed, a launcher burned up, missiles and a diesel exploded. A hard day! The subunit was pulled back to the rear.

The outrages of Israeli aviation could be halted only by more active tactics on our part. We decided: the battalions would move in turn directly up to the Suez Canal, to set up ambushes, and if enemy aircraft appeared, would open fire suddenly. The first positions for the ambushes were prepared ahead of time, several kilometers to the south of the city of Ismailia (an Egyptian battalion was deployed to the north). On the night of 31 July/1 August, they were occupied by soldiers of the subunits commanded by Lt Cols N. Kutyntsev and K. Popov. Konstantin Ilich can tell it better from this point.

[Popov] We began the march to the ambush during the day, but we covered the final kilometers in pitch darkness. Preparation for battle was begun at once. The firing position was near an orchard. Close by was a small irrigation ditch, and kitchen gardens of the fellaheen. For camouflage we used yellow and green nets, as well as bundles of brush and corn stalks. Rubber tubes were put over the diesel exhausts and run in the bushes to the drainage ditch. In short, we camouflaged so that even on the ground close by it was hard to detect the missile equipment. And all this only by the light of flashlights.

By six the battalion was ready for battle. Duty was in shifts; we rested right at our posts.

But the enemy waited.

On 3 August, Sr. Lt. Mikhail Petrenko, the chief of the reconnaissance and target designation station reported: "Raid of a group of aircraft. Vertically and horizontally echeloned." They were Phantoms and Mirages. But they were far off. Egyptian missilemen opened fire. One Mirage caught fire and fell. Around two hours later, the Israelis tried a second raid. Now they knew the position of the Egyptian battalion, and 16 aircraft crossed the Suez Canal and went to destroy it. This is where we felt the terrible power of the Phantoms!

The Israelis thought there was one battalion in front of them. And all unawares they entered the fire zone of the battalion of Lt Col Kutyntsev. At once the order came for their destruction, but our neighbors had a launch delay—I was listening to the radio conversations. I realized that our time had come. The chief of staff Major A. Krylov, the guidance officer Capt. A. Dyatkin, and operators Pvs V. Shiyan and A. Zavdravnykh were frozen in expectation. They already had the targets firmly in their sights. I reported: ready to open fire. Within seconds two missiles leapt up from their launch rails. Detecting the missile launches with their warning instruments, the aircraft executed fire-evasion maneuvers—turning toward the canal and switching to afterburners. But one Phantom did not get away; a missile caught it.

Minutes later four aircraft approached from the rear at low altitude and delivered a strike with rockets and bombs, but fortunately against a dummy position. While we were firing, TNT charges had been detonated at it, simulating missile launches. And the enemy went for the bait. To reduce position disclosure at missile launch, we had sprinkled water around the launchers (luckily the irrigation ditch was nearby) and put out the flames immediately after launch. Within a quarter hour a group of aircraft came directly at the battalion; probably the pilots realized it was the main position. But we were already prepared. The first Phantom exploded directly before our eyes, a second was crippled. The pilots ejected, and hung overhead for some time. Our soldiers took them prisoner and handed them over to the Egyptians. A third Phantom executed a maneuver to approach from the rear and was downed by missilemen of Kutyntsev's battalion. The attack petered out. The remaining aircraft moved back across the Suez Canal. For the day the Israeli Air Force lost 5 aircraft, something that had never happened before.

[Dokuchayev] What tactical stratagems did the enemy employ?

[Popov] A deceptive tactic was carried out on 3 August. Two or three hours after we had beaten back a massed raid, echoes from low-flying targets appeared on the radar screens. We counted twenty of them. They were moving in our direction. First we took them for helicopters. We decided that the enemy had undertaken this tactic to force us at any cost to launch our last missiles.

Time did not merely pass, it flew by. The targets approached, and CP personnel grew nervous. Lt Col Kutyntsev's missilemen made two launches, but the missiles raced to the self-destruct point without hitting targets. Meaning there were no helicopters aloft, but what were they? We did not solve the puzzle at once, but we saved our remaining missiles. And the enemy did not risk trying to break through the air defense. Later we learned that the Israelis had released metallized balloons.

[Dokuchayev] But Konstantin Ilich, they are easy to identify. They move slowly, in the direction of the wind...

[Popov] Everyone fancies himself a strategist when watching a battle from the side. In a training drill the targets would have been identified in mere seconds. But you see, the echoes had appeared on the screens after an actual raid. We thought: after a hard fight, the enemy wouldn't fool around, as they say. We had to think hard, but we guessed the Israelis' course.

[Dokuchayev] And was there no time when the enemy outwitted you?

[Zhayvoronok] Well, all right, that did happen once. A Phantom insolently lingered in front of Major Tolokonnikov's subunit, but did not enter the fire zone. Understandably enough, attention was drawn to it. And at this time a group of aircraft came in from the rear and delivered a strike. We did not escape without casualties.

[Dokuchayev] Konstantin Ilich, let us return again to the battle on 3 August, for which you were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. In order to join battle with a Phantom, you probably have to have good psychological training?

[Popov] Yes, watching a Phantom approaching the battalion is not a pleasant sight. Painted green, spitting fire, it is like a real dragon.

After a first launch, a fire broke out around the launcher. Smoke and sand raised by the missile launches clearly gave away our position. The subordinates of Lt. N. Voronin did not lose their heads; they quickly broke up and put out the flames.

[Dokuchayev] Our equipment... How did it perform under the difficult circumstances?

[Zhayvoronok] In a word, excellently. The complexes accumulated several thousands of hours of operating time each, and there was not a single breakdown. And during range training there was even a case, when firing in the "low altitude" mode, when a missile racing at the target almost touched the ground, but entered its trajectory and hit the target.

[Dokuchayev] And now a different sort of question. How did you maintain communications with the Motherland. Did your family and friends know that you were performing international tasks?

[Popov] Communications with the Motherland... In general they were close. For example, we received newspapers the next day. You know, the troops really enjoyed the "Star" [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA], the few short lines saying that one Israeli Skyhawk aircraft had been downed and another damaged during a raid by 24 Israeli aircraft on the positions of Egyptian forces in the Suez Canal zone. But we knew: that was us. Of course we listened to the radio.

Naturally our family and friends knew we were on Arab soil. It was not permitted to write of this, but we sent postcards with views of Egyptian cities, and the world-famous pyramids.

[Dokuchayev] You returned to the Motherland. Of course each has his own life to lead, but do you maintain ties with one another?

[Zhayvoronok] Yes, we help each other to the extent we can. That "Egyptian" year will be with us always. We stayed on Near-Eastern soil for precisely 12 months. But it is too bad that Soviet people did not know of the heroism of our fellow soldiers. We were decorated and forgotten, as they say.

[Dokuchayev] Boris Ivanovich, has this not been going on since the thirties, aren't those "traditions" still having their effect? I had occasion to become acquainted with the personal files of soldiers who provided international assistance to Republican Spain. But do you know, they contain no records at all of where these people were in the years of thirty-six and thirty-seven.

[Zhayvoronok] We are in a similar position. By now my health has become fragile, and I need a telephone in my apartment. I asked for a priority installation, as a person who had been in combat. "How can you prove that you were in Egypt?", I was asked. I showed my Order of the Red Star and Egyptian medal. "That is no confirmation," they said.

To hell with the telephone, as they say. Its painful when they don't believe your combat order is genuine. It's all been classified...

[Popov] The attitude toward us changed right after our return from Egypt. Toward all of us. Soldiers and sergeants whose active service time was over were sent home, with no entries in their military service cards. Some of them were called into their military commissariats and told to document where they were for 9 to 12 months of 1970-1971. They were practically considered deserters. They experienced it all—trampling of honor, abasement of their human dignity, a contemptuous attitude toward those who fought, who were disabled...

We made proposals: establish a "Soldier-Internationalist" decoration, reconsider the award requests for a number of former soldiers, which sat in an office somewhere after we were withdrawn from Egypt, apply the benefits enjoyed by

"Afghan" soldiers to all who performed their international tasks on Arab soil. But our proposals ran up against an invisible wall. They don't see us, the participants of battles of the hot summer of seventy.

Life in Angola Military Assistance Group Depicted

18010473 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
25 Mar 89 First Edition p 5

[Article by Captain 1st Rank S. Bystrov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, entitled: "'There Is a Place in Angola...'"]

[Text] Making my way from Luanda to the Namibian border, I was ready to see just about anything, except a Russian bath. As it turned out, this bath was the most substantial above-ground structure of the tiny "garrison" of our military advisers with the FAPLA's 2d Motorized Infantry Brigade. All of the living quarters were underground. Above ground there were only a large open-air pavilion doubling as a mess hall, lightweight administrative structures and the bath.

Why a steam bath in Africa, if one is already always covered with sweat? "For the soul," answered the military advisers. "When you steam yourself in the bath, it's like having been home, like a holiday. We never get days off here, you see...."

To be sure, how could you have days off when you're at the front? And what good is a day off if there's nowhere to go? Such is a day off—a small change in the usual daily routine having a bias toward an uncharacteristic way of life. That is, one could sleep a little later, read a little longer and may be see a movie.... Such that our military advisers at the brigade level have no days off. But unexpected holidays do occur. If someone is lucky to take a trip to Lubango on business or, on the other hand, if a Soviet military adviser of a higher level visits.

I remember Major General (now already a Lieutenant General) V. Belyayev, First Deputy to our Main Military Adviser in Angola, telling me in Luanda, when I was first getting to know him:

"If we know that a commission of some sort is expected to fly over from the Union, to us that's a holiday. As you know, no inspection of any kind has ever made anyone feel any better, but to us an inspection is a joy: It's an opportunity to communicate with your own people, your own country."

And in this instance, at a point barely noticeable even on operational maps, we were met like the dearest guests.

This was truly an event for the brigade advisers. They never thought that they would see a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent here. For many years, you see, our military advisers have remained in that category of unknown patriots, about whom nothing was ever said according to the accepted practice, "in the interests of what they were doing." Far from all people hunger for

glory. But there are still fewer of those who find satisfaction in being total nonpersons. Probably because in such a situation the individual is deprived of his natural right to see himself valued, to take pride in himself and in his work.

Glasnost and democracy are also precious to us because they turn very many things upside-down, they return to acts, actions and evaluations their natural meaning, and they break down the prohibitory system in areas where its goal was not the interests of the people but interests concealed from them.

Major General Belyayev appeared on Angolan television (read, before the entire world) several times before any specific mention of Soviet military advisers appeared in our press. And of course, long before I was permitted to mention his name in February of this year in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. A paradox, is it not? Though as Pushkin said, a paradox is a sign of brilliance, and not absurdity.

As I write, I maintain the hope that as long as there is a need for him, the Soviet military adviser will become a regular hero of our newspapers. For the moment he is just a regular hero. A hero among those soldiers who say little but do a lot, among those who are more comfortable in the field than on wooden floors, among those who have not and do not doubt our sacred professional obligation: "...steadfastly enduring all burdens and deprivations of military service."

Lieutenant Colonel Yevgeniy Petrovich Volchkov has been an adviser to First Lieutenant Antonio Zhakin, commander of the FAPLA's 2d Motorized Infantry Brigade, for half a year. "Already half a year"—because Volchkov has worked himself completely into the situation, and has managed to gain the confidence of the young brigade commander, who is young enough to be his son. And at the same time, "just half a year," because a year and a half of service in one of the most dangerous regions of Angola still lie ahead. Without his family, naturally. And without radio or television. With rare mail deliveries and just one leave in these 2 years. With the canned goods, the noodles and the groats that in Africa aren't exactly pleasing to the palate. This is why our advisers try to add variety to their diet any way they can. Volchkov's "garrison" has a subsidiary farm: a few piglets and a couple of dozen hens. By inheritance from their predecessors they received a small fazenda—with fruit trees and a garden. But such luxury is more likely the exception. The climate is not so favorable everywhere, and water is not so abundant everywhere.

In summer, which in the southern latitudes coincides with our winter, the surrounding luxuriant vegetation is pleasing to the eye. But on the other hand in winter, only the cactuses are green, with nothing but dry red earth, dust and leafless trees all around. The southern blues. Even a busy work schedule does little to make things

better. After a hard work day in the brigade, the tiny garrison (a few men) strives to occupy itself in active "housework," and in the study of Portuguese.

Lieutenant Colonel Volchkov invited us into his hut. Being the senior officer, he has his own "apartment." The shelter is revetted with asbestos-cement pipes filled with concrete. And a thick timber roof.

"Can it withstand a shell?" Major General Belyayev asked.

"God forbid a direct hit," Yevgeniy Petrovich Volchkov replied more in seriousness than in jest.

Everyone would like to believe that after 1 April, when withdrawal of the Cuban grouping to the north and of the South African troops to the south will begin, the situation will stabilize itself. But it is hard to believe this here. It was after my return to Moscow that I became convinced that the apprehensions of our advisers were not unfounded. On 8 February, supporting UNITA bands withdrawing from the FAPLA's blows, the South Africans, who made little effort to remain faithful to the agreement on peaceful settlement in Southwest Africa, signed just a little more than a month ago in New York, rushed to the assistance of the UNITA troops. They penetrated 40 kilometers into Cuando Cubango Province. They employed high-power, long-range artillery in this effort. Meaning that General Belyayev's question concerning the reliability of the hut's roof was not at all an idle one.

It is hotter in the huts than up above. And of course, there are no air conditioners in them. The only available luxury here is the mosquito netting over the beds. The malaria mosquito is no better than a bullet in Angola. Prior to my flight to the front the physician attached to our embassy in Luanda gave me a few preventive pills and a special ointment. But it is said (and there are unfortunate cases to confirm this) that at the moment the variety of mosquito "injections" is greater than that of medicines to prevent illness.

Lieutenant Colonel Volchkov inherited a cassette tape bearing the song of the 2d Brigade's military advisers.

"There's a place in Angola called Cahama—a devastated village in the country's south, where we served together for 2 years, where we survived bombings, artillery barrages and battles."

It is, of course, not a well known song. Probably not the only one in all of Angola. It is a song "for internal use." It is one of those that is born and dies without leaving a trace in the country's creative self-consciousness. But it is also one of those which is sung in order to ease the most burdensome of military work. Because when a person sings as he works, he honors it, he is grateful for it, and it will never be separated from his life.

Valeriy Nikolayevich and I listened to the song from beginning to end. In the unbearable stuffiness of the hut, dripping with sweat, I copied it on my recorder. Then, in the airplane, Belyayev asked to hear it once again. Valeriy Nikolayevich, who was "born" in the airborne troops and who had just learned of the safe return of his son Yevgeniy, an extended-service paratrooper, from Afghanistan, listened like a man who was quenching his thirst.

"How did your son wind up in Afghanistan?" I asked.

"He wanted to go," Belyayev replied simply.

This one could feel was his credo, as a father and a soldier.

As a journalist I was very interested in composing an integral impression about the contingent, if you will, of our military advisers. Colonel V. Kuptsov, an adviser to the chief of the political department of the Southern Front, had some noteworthy things to say on this account:

"Despite all of the internal conflicts, which are inevitable, the nervous tension, and the large work load, we have to stay friends, we have to display endurance. The men we advise carefully observe everything, and their authority depends not only on the professionalism but also on the concordance and friendship of their advisers."

I would like to say, not as a compliment but for the sake of justice, that those who choose to serve as advisers apparently do so with a great sense of responsibility. I never saw any instance that would persuade me of the reverse. I am only sorry that I was unable to visit other FAPLA formations, our other advisers. After all, when you write about people who must deal with the harsh realities, conjecture is out of place. What is needed here is not conjecture, but seeing and knowing.

(To be concluded)

Further Coverage of Military Advisory Group—Angola

18010478 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
27 Mar 89 First Edition p 3

[Conclusion of article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Captain 1st Rank S. Bystrov under rubric "Our Military Advisers": "There is a Place in Angola"; beginning of article in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 25 Mar 89.]

[Text] Lubango-Luanda-Moscow—Much of what I had occasion to see and learn I recorded not only in memory, but also on a dictaphone, on film and on video cassettes. One of them contains our almost hour-long conversation with advisers of that same 2d Mechanized Infantry Brigade. This fragment was shown (a close-up of faces) on the TV program "I Serve the Soviet Union," but I will

give the names now. Lieutenant Colonel V. Karman, adviser to the political department chief; Lieutenant Colonel L. Bakumenko, air defense adviser to the brigade commander; Major A. Bokach, adviser to the chief of artillery; Junior Lieutenant Yu. Reshetnikov, interpreter; Senior Warrant Officer P. Temchishin, armored equipment repair specialist; and A. Takhmetov, BRDM driver. In addition, there was Colonel G. Shishkin, the adviser to the second commander of the Southern Front, who accompanied us from Lubango. And of course there was the area "boss," Brigade Commander 1st Lieutenant Antonio (Zhakin).

We spoke about everything, but the advisers did more listening—they so wanted to learn just a little bit more than the rare wave of information about the surrounding world that rolls up to them. Yes, newspapers do arrive, but very late.

Of course this is a problem, and of course it is an old one. It stands to reason that it has to be resolved, for even in Lubango our advisers have no opportunity to see the program "Time." Yes, generally there are difficulties with this even in Luanda, although problems are resolved if there is the desire. My long-time friend Captain 1st Rank A. Kibkalo, who also serves in Angola, does the following, for example: every day he records the program "Vremya" on video cassette in the Soviet Embassy and plays it for his subordinates in the evening. This is no problem because of the VCR's. Every adviser has an opportunity to purchase a VCR sooner or later, but more often (as is the case with many other things) it is late because providing advisers with manufactured goods also is a problem here.

Advisers are military people and they also bear these "burdens" staunchly. Somehow it is customary for us to consider it unseemly to mention personal needs. Is this the important thing? The fact is, however, that a person does not exist without personal needs and forgetting about them means forgetting about the person himself. Finally we have begun to speak about this: about the shortage, about the absence or poor quality of services, and about the ordinary person's lack of rights to protect his consumer interests. There is louder talk about civilians and quieter talk about the military, especially military advisers, for allegedly they do live abroad and do receive dollars.

Unfortunately I cannot say specifically how much they receive: that too is not customary for now, as is the amount of a military person's pay and allowances in general. It was believed that the regular military received too much pay, but this already is in the past. Now a skilled worker receives more than a junior officer, and what can one say about lessees or cooperative workers? Even now our division commander receives less than the administrator of a cooperative coffeehouse.

I write and think: I will also be reproached for having spent time with military advisers and not having talked about that. But speaking "about that," i.e., about the important thing—performance of official, international duty, our advisers are in debt to no one here.

On meeting Colonel Mateus Miguel Angelo, Second Commander of the Southern Front, I asked one question that probably was somewhat unexpected for my companion. A reduction is beginning in the Soviet Armed Forces. In his view, are there not too many of our military advisers here? The diplomatic, restrained commander exclaimed heatedly:

"What are you saying? We need support and assistance. If your advisers are reduced here, we will be in a very difficult spot. The positions from which Cuban forces will be leaving will have to be occupied by FAPLA forces, and they have to be trained for this."

It is relevant to note that the FAPLA (People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola) now are recognized as the best trained and best organized army of Central Africa. This is no small amount of proof as to our military advisers' services. Unquestionably these people, who constantly work under extreme conditions, deserve a more attentive attitude and adequate assessment of their labor, and not in general, but in those "specifics" about which it is time to cease "feeling shy" in speaking about them.

Currency rubles converted into the dollars which our military adviser in Angola receives are noncash and are transferred immediately to the Vneshekonombank [Bank for Foreign Economic Activity]. In order to receive them in living form a person has to be in Moscow and go to this bank. Such are the long-drawn-out proceedings. But he is also happy that he can bring his currency to Angola on returning from leave. It is very difficult to spend it in Moscow through the present Berezka. In Angola there is no Soviet store at all trading for hard currency. On the other hand there is a Cuban and a Bulgarian store, which is where the military adviser will take his money, surprised that he is forced to give currency so needed by the state to foreign stores. By the way, the latter sensed the solvency of Soviet specialists (it was relatively recently that Vneshekonombank began to issue live dollars personally in Moscow) and quickly raised prices, especially for household electronics.

Of course, even before leave the military adviser has an opportunity somehow to spend scrip in his cooperative store, but for a large number of reasons it is difficult to do this, since first one has to order the necessary commodity, then wait a long while, and not all orders are met. The services of Vneshposyltorg also are far from perfection. For example, when an adviser orders a VCR or television set, the money will be removed immediately from his account in Moscow, but the commodity will arrive several months later. It will definitely come to

Angola with a substantial payment for delivery, although the adviser would have received it gladly later in Moscow, but apparently it is profitable for Vneshposyltorg to deliver.

From whom of our Soviet specialists have I not had occasion to hear complaints about the work of representatives of our trade delegation in Angola, which has an impressive staff. The fact is that socialist countries have only 6-8 percent of the foreign trade balance of Angola as compared with 80 percent for the capitalist countries. I will not go into the problems of the relationships of our trade representatives with the Angolan side, but they do not want to take currency even from the hands of Soviet specialists. Is that not why there is no Soviet store in Luanda? Is that not why the trade delegation takes subscriptions for periodicals (Soviet citizens in Angola pay for them with currency) only once a year?

I had occasion to converse with many Cubans. Cuba is no richer than we, but one can learn from Cuba about showing concern for one's citizens. In the Southern Front I became acquainted with Lieutenant Colonel (Maksimum Gonsales Nardu), chief of the Operations Department of the Southern Group of Forces. Like our advisers in the brigades, he has no family and so will spend two years in Angola. During this time, however, he is on leave not once, but a minimum of three times. He will fly off on his first leave of 15 days after 5-6 months, on a second leave of a month after a year, and then again for 15 days after one and a half years. The flight to Cuba costs no less than to the Soviet Union, but the Cubans do not believe that it is worthwhile economizing on this. Just when will we realize that we cannot economize on people's well-being? We cannot, because this is both immoral and useless, since such economy is incapable of covering up the lapses of mismanagement.

In general the thesis of economy as we understand it is, it seems to me, without prospects. Economy is simply impossible where matters are carried on wisely and sensibly, since it will take place at the expense of quality, at the expense of some kind of damage. Economy is possible only with poor management.

How many broken-down, wrecked, half-cannibalized Soviet trucks I saw in Angola. They should still be serving and serving, but will they be restored? Hardly. There are no spare parts. Most likely we will supply our Angolan friends with new vehicles as replacements.

In Lieutenant Colonel Volchkov's outfit I was struck by two more such doomed GAZ-66's.

"How can that be?" I could not keep from saying. "You too are not taking care of equipment which we lack at home?"

"That is not the case," said Senior Warrant Officer Temchishin, offended, "we picked up the abandoned ones. Come back in a month or two, I will put together such a vehicle from them."

Oh, that Senior Warrant Officer Petr Polikarpovich, he has a thrifty nature.

"I do this for my own enjoyment," he said, smiling contentedly. "It makes my heart bleed to see property disappear."

Temchishin has a small position, but a state level of self-awareness.

"You should be in the trade delegation," his comrades joked.

"I have trouble with Portuguese," said Polikarpovich in embarrassment.

Oh, Senior Warrant Officer, the country now needs skilled proprietors more than polyglots. Everywhere, in every position.

I will not remember precise expressions, as I did not record numerous phrases, but somehow the name of Lieutenant General (now Colonel General) K. Kurochkin was put aside in my head to a greater extent and more firmly. He was our chief military adviser in Angola for just a few years, but I realized that it is not a matter of time, but of the individual. Angola remembers him in a very good way, and they say that they will remember him for a long while.

Not to go into detail, but this probably is the meaning, the chief purpose of our military adviser. Everyone, in whatever country he was asked to be, was asked to assist. We have to do everything sensibly and expediently to help him in order to make it easier for him to serve there in a difficult situation.

Commentary on NATO 'Dragon-Hammer-89' Exercise

*18010667 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
14 May 89 First Edition p 3*

[Article by Captain First Rank A. Yurev: "'Dragon Hammer-89'"]

[Text] A series of spring maneuvers of NATO Allied Armed Forces on the bloc's southern flank was completed by conducting exercise Dragon Hammer-89. It occurred in the Mediterranean Sea from 20 April through 3 May and had a clearly aggressive nature. Incidentally, the name of the exercise is quite eloquent, when translated from English, it means "hammer of the dragon." The "hammer," very likely implies the ships which took part in the exercise, including the American nuclear aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt, combat patrol and tactical aircraft, and subunits of marines.

During the first phase of the exercise, an operation was conducted for landing a ground-attack force and the main assault forces. A combined mode of operations was used—personnel and equipment were assault-landed using landing craft and transport-assault helicopters. The seizure of a bridgehead and its subsequent enlargement was carried out with the support of aviation and a detachment of fire support warships. As a result, 3,000 marines, tanks, artillery, and other equipment were landed. During this time, special attention was devoted to coordination of units and subunits of the various national contingents: American, English, Italians, Spanish, Turkish, and Dutch.

During the second phase of the exercise, issues were worked out concerning use of NATO combined naval forces in operations for attaining naval supremacy and air superiority in the central portion of the Mediterranean Sea, transferring the zone of supremacy to the northern axis, insuring all types of landings on the southern flank, and isolating the area for forming convoys, etc.

Overall, this latest game in serious war can in no way promote confidence building measures between West and East or lower military tensions in the dangerously explosive region that the Mediterranean Sea is.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, economic, military, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed, with personal and place names rendered in accordance with FBIS transliteration style.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Soviet Union, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be

provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735, or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

13 JULY 89